The Middlebury Campus

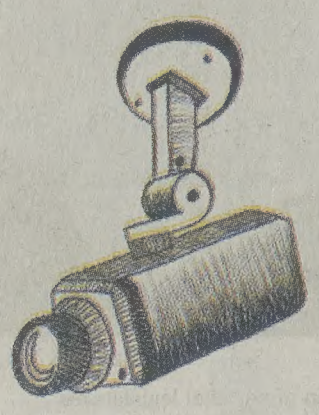
VOL. CXVIII, No. 6 | MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT, OCTOBER 17, 2019 | MIDDLEBURYCAMPUS.COM

Pub Safe to roll out heightened security measures

By JAMES FINN
Managing Editor

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) has been working on a plan over the past several months to update the college's security systems before the end of this academic year.

The plan, introduced to the Middlebury community in an email on Sept. 24, will lead to the installation of an updated door swipe system and an undetermined number of stationary security cameras across campus — both measures scheduled to take effect this year. Administrators have also discussed the possibility of equipping public safety officers with wearable body cameras, but that measure has been only tentatively broached and will not be implemented this school year.



SARAH FAGAN/ THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

"Fundamentally, at the highest level, it's about providing a safe environment for our students," Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration David Provost said.

Discussions about installing stationary security cameras have taken place continuously over the past decade, according to Provost, as peer institutions have incorporated such cameras in their campus security plans in increasing numbers. Colleges like Colby, Bowdoin, Saint Michaels and University of Vermont have used cameras in past years. As recently as 2015, however, Community Council voted down a proposal to install cameras at Middlebury.

Administrators decided to proceed with a plan to install cameras this year because of a combination of community support — even the once-reluctant Community Council urged administrators to consider installing cameras in January — and a national climate that necessitated more stringent security measures. In the wake of several mass shootings nationwide in recent months, administrators began to consider ways to decrease the campus' vulnerability, according to Provost.

Provost, Public Safety Director Lisa Burchard and DPS are still in the preliminary stages of devising the new security plan. Detailed "best practices," the exact number of cameras and their locations, and policies around storage of stationary camera footage have yet to be determined.

Updated card access system

DPS has already begun upgrading the card access system used to regulate entrance into college buildings. DPS has been

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BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

NOTHING GOLD CAN STAY. Turn to page 8 to read about why leaf peeping is happening a week early this year.

Post-graduation employment rates hit all-time highs

By SOPHIA MCDERMOTT-HUGHES
Contributing Writer

Graphs by ISHA KOTHARI
Data Editor

The percentage of Middlebury graduates with jobs within months of their graduation date has been steadily rising since 2014.

Six months after graduation, 81% of the class of 2018 had found employment, the highest rate on record. Most of these graduates are working full-time jobs while others, also included in this definition of employment, are working part-time while studying or pursuing an additional career.

As of Aug. 1, two months after graduation, 69% of the class of 2019 was employed, representing a 50% increase from the class of 2014, according to Peggy Burns, director of the Center for Careers and Internships (CCI).

Even considering rising national employment rates, Burns said that the CCI's increasing efforts over the last five years to help students find employment has also contributed markedly to this growth. Most notably, the center has increasingly funneled alumni enthusiasm through several new programs that help emerging grads enter the workforce.

These efforts include the creation of seven Middlebury Professional Networks (MPNs), consisting of alumni who volunteer to provide active career support in the fields of consulting, energy and environment, financial services, government and policy, international affairs, media and entertainment, and technology. The center aims to expand these

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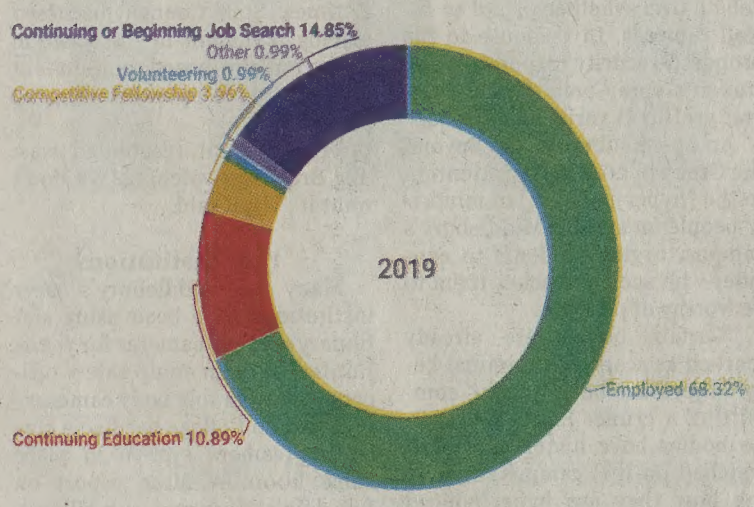
Job outcomes for the class of 2019 as of Aug. 1 2019



Middlebury businesses on the right track, despite construction concerns

By LUCY TOWNEND
Copy Editor

With several years of work remaining on Middlebury's Bridge and Rail Project, downtown merchants are determined to outlast dwindling patronship that has posed a challenge since the project began.

The Bridge and Rail Project, aiming to bring passenger rail service from Rutland to Burlington by 2021, will close down Main Street to vehicles from May 27 to Aug. 5 this summer, limiting parking for visitors and potentially decreasing foot traffic and sales. Examples of recent work include the replacement of the Main Street and Exchange Street bridges and blasting tunnels in preparation of the replacement of 3,500 feet of rail.

Nearby businesses are often caught in the crosshairs of the disruptive process.

"It's been a real challenge," said Theresa Harris, manager of Edgewater Gallery. "Everyone knows that Middlebury is going through a big construction project, and people bypass the town."

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Bridge and rail development projects in the town of Middlebury are still underway. Despite worries about the impacts of construction, merchants are remaining hopeful about carrying on business as usual.

LUCY TOWNEND/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Despite seeing the long-term benefits, Harris noted the immediate effects: "In the short term, we think it's very destructive and troubling for businesses."

Jutta Miska, the founder of second-hand clothing store Buy Again Alley, was a social worker at a teen center in Addison County when she would run clothing swaps at the local high school. As participation grew, students suggested she opened up her own store. While she initially predicted that she would open a store in six months, she managed to open in three months due to the enthusiasm of high school and college students in the community. Miska felt worried about the ten weeks of road closures. "The only way to survive is to adapt and come up with new ideas, and I really

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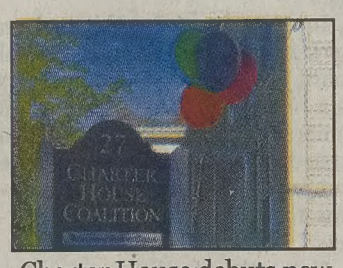

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SPORTS

Football extends championship hopes
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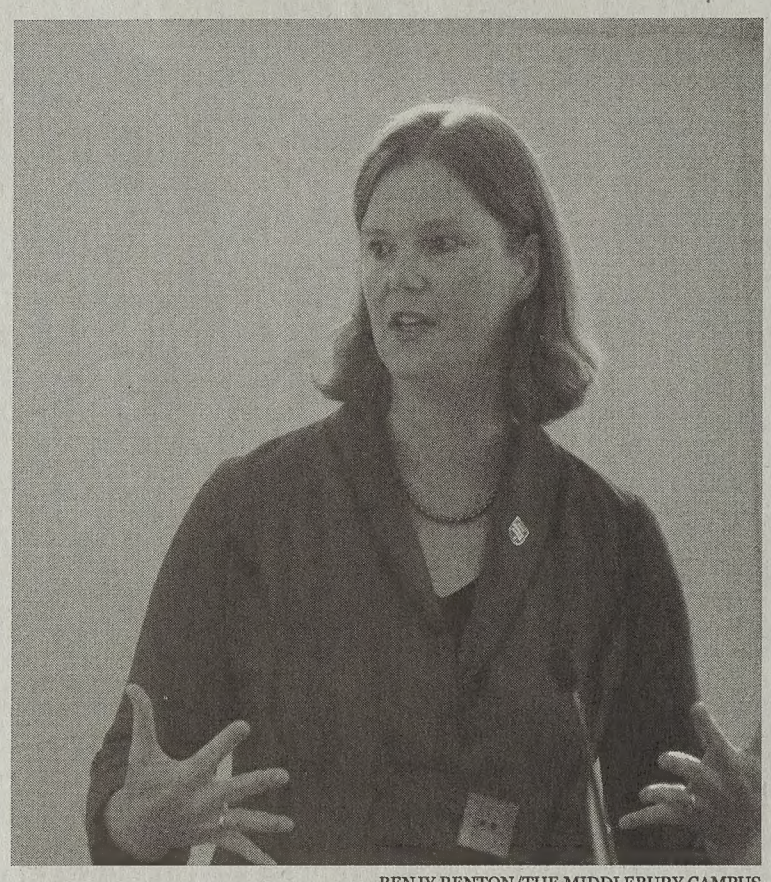
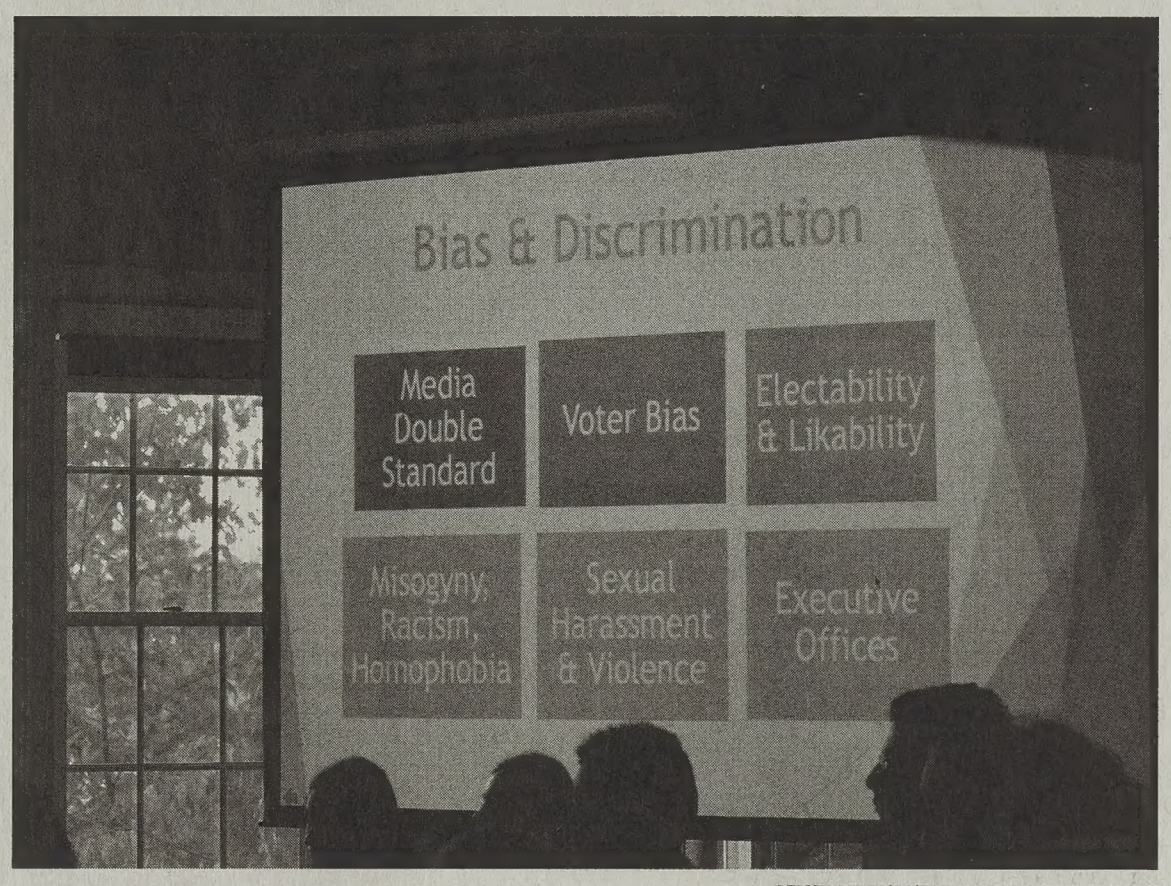
"Women and Representation" series kicks off

Vermont State Senator Ruth Hardy talks women in poltics



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Ruth Hardy is teaching "Women in US Electoral Politics" this fall.



BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The U.S. is ranked 76th in the world for its number of women in national legislatures.

By KARI HENKEN
Online Editor

The ongoing conversation about women in traditionally male-dominated professions was re-ignited at the college this past Wednesday, Oct. 9, with the opening of the "Women and Representation" lecture series.

Ruth Hardy, a Democratic state senator representing Addison County and a visiting professor at Middlebury this fall, kicked off the series with her talk, "Why Electing More Women Matters."

Drawing on her experience as a state senator and her former role as the executive director of Emerge Vermont, Hardy focused her talk on worldwide statistics surrounding women in elected positions, the importance of electing women to office and potential barriers that deter women from running in elections.

"I started with a little story about when I first gave a talk like this just after the 2016 Democratic National Convention," Hardy told The Campus. "I had gone [to the convention] and was really excited — I thought we were turning a corner in the whole 'women in politics' story and that we were about to elect our first woman president — and then, of course, what came after."

The United States is ranked 76th in the world in terms of women in national legislatures; it falls far behind Rwanda, Cuba and Bolivia, which are the top three highest-ranked nations for female representation.

Within the U.S., Vermont does poorly in comparison with other states.

"It's the only state that hasn't sent a woman to Congress," Hardy said. "You wouldn't think so, but we haven't."

Hardy laid out the factors that prevent women from getting into politics, from structural barriers to personal ones. For example, women feel they need to be overly qualified to run for office, she said.

As Hardy explained in her presentation, many women face sexism and discrimination, bias in the media, voter bias and sexual harassment — obstacles that female candidates, especially women of color, must overcome but that men rarely encounter.

The lecture series, co-sponsored by Middlebury's Political Science Department and the Feminist Resource Center at the Chellis House, aims to change the discourse surrounding the portrayal and representation of women, especially in elected positions.

Erik Bleich, chair of the Political Science Department, explained that his department decided to invite speakers around a particular theme decided upon last year. This year's theme celebrates the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage.

"I asked [Hardy] to present because she is a dynamic local woman who has long been active in politics," Bleich said. "Her talk was very well-received."

The lecture series is of particular relevance because, as Bleich described, "Diversity is more than just an object of study. Institutions at every level function best when they're at their most diverse, when everyone feels that they are represented and can represent themselves."

> *"Vermont is the only state that hasn't sent a woman to Congress."*
>
> *State Senator Ruth Hardy*

According to Bleich, the "Women and Representation" series provides students with an "opportunity to think about things going on today — the rise of female candidates running for President of the United States, the surge of women running for office in the U.S., the issue of women's rights around the world."

"It's becoming more and more important for political scientists to focus on gender," he said.

In addition to Hardy, this year's line-up of featured speakers will include Sabrina Karim, assistant professor of government at Cornell University, and Kimberly Morgan, professor of political science and international affairs at George Washington University.

For this first lecture, Hardy did more than highlight the gender inequalities within the U.S. political system: she spoke on the importance of electing women and how electing more women can become a reality.

"Women often make better leaders and better elected officials than men," Hardy said. "They sponsor more legislation, bring more money to districts, improve the economy in their districts and have better health outcomes for counties and districts represented by women. Women are more collaborative and less partisan."

Anna Durning '19.5, who attended the talk, got to know Hardy when she volunteered for her state senate campaign last fall, and was excited to hear of her on-campus lecture.

"In her talk, Ruth did a really good job of bringing together scholarship on women and elections, and her own story of running for office, [for the] school board and then state senate," Durning wrote in an email to The Campus. "She reminded us that here in Vermont, 'We love to think we're better than New Hampshire, but when it comes to women in office we're not.'"

Durning also mentioned that during the lecture, a frustrating example of the treatment women sometimes face when they hold public roles came up. Durning explained that an older man answered a phone call and proceeded to talk loudly on the phone while Hardy was speaking about barriers that prevent women from running for office.

"In a somewhat small space such as the RAJ conference room, he was essentially speaking over Sen. Hardy, which I felt was incredibly rude and an absurdly well-timed example of how people do not value women's expertise and experience," Durning said. The man was eventually asked to leave.

Hardy's talk had a lot of overlap with the class she is currently teaching this semester, focusing on issues such as the current status of women in politics and different identities of women in political positions — such as women of color, LGBTQIA+ women and Republican women.

Through both her lecture and her class, Hardy hopes to instill a sense of awareness in Middlebury students about Vermont politics and women in office.

Editor's note: Ruth Hardy is the spouse of Prof. Jason Mittell, The Campus' academic advisor. Any questions may be directed to campus@middlebury.edu.

JOINING PEER SCHOOLS, MIDD WILL INSTALL SECURITY CAMS

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contracting with Minuteman, a Massachusetts-based security technologies firm, to add swipe pads to doors that haven't had them in the past, like Old Chapel and the lower doors in Bicentennial Hall. Minuteman has previously installed security systems at Smith College, University of Massachusetts at Worcester and other Northeast colleges.

The new system will also give people who work in certain buildings jurisdiction over who can enter them with ID cards, removing some of that responsibility from DPS. DPS hopes to install the new Minuteman card access system by this December alongside the old system, before transitioning completely to the new system at the start of the spring semester.

Students will still be able to use their existing Middlebury ID cards once the new system has been installed.

"We don't want people to think that the changes are going to suddenly overwhelm them," Burchard said. "Most of the changes are going to happen within public safety."

Stationary cameras

The September community email said that stationary cameras will be installed "beginning this winter." But that timeframe was a rough estimate. Realistically, Provost said, students should not expect to see stationary cameras on campus until April or May of 2020. Though DPS has a sum of $10,000 allocated from its operating budget for the installation of cameras this year, a larger budget is needed before the plan can be carried out in full. Next year's budget will not be finalized until May, so it's unlikely that many cameras will be installed before the end of the spring, according to Provost.

DPS has yet to decide the exact locations and number of cameras. The Atwater parking lot, where cars have been broken into in recent months, is one site that Burchard identified as a likely candidate for an early-stage stationary camera — one that would be installed using the leftover $10,000.

Minuteman, the firm commissioned to upgrade the card-access system, will also work on installation of stationary cameras. This will allow for what Burchard describes as an "integrated" system between cameras and swipe systems.

Provost and Burchard acknowledged that the new plan would likely prompt student concerns about privacy, as discussions of cameras have done in the past. In 2015, for example, students voiced frustrations with plans to install cameras that emerged after a wave of vandalism.

Though they are still in the process of determining best practices, Burchard and Provost said definitively that camera footage would likely not be stored for more than 30 days. Stationary camera footage occupies huge amounts of space, Burchard said, and storing it for longer than a month would be impractical. She also said that camera footage will not be monitored 24/7, but will be consulted in the wake of a reported crime that is being investigated.

"By no means are we suggesting at all that this flies in the face of privacy," Provost said. "This is about spaces that are most vulnerable, from our information as well as students'."

Following recent instances of campus vandalism in some dorms, some facilities staff have voiced support for the security cameras.

"Hopefully this will cut down on vandalism," Facilities Supervisor Wayne Hall said. "Over the last 10 years, my staff group has been reduced from 16 to 10. We have to cover more buildings than ever, and we don't have time to fix things that don't need to be fixed."

Body cameras

Burchard said plans to equip public safety officers with wearable body cameras are in the "the very beginning discussion phases," and that it is unlikely the college will implement these plans in the near future. She said that her staff remains unsure of camera model and exact policies around data storage and use of cameras by officers.

If they are implemented, Burchard said, body cameras will be part of an effort to increase transparency between DPS officers and the campus community.

"We want to improve the trust and transparency involved in the interactions when people have questions," Burchard said.

Body cameras are implemented in many cases by police forces as tools to prevent racial profiling by officers. DPS officers have been accused of racial profiling in the past, such as when an officer allegedly racially profiled a non-white member of the faculty, according to a 2017 letter to the editor in The Campus.

Past camera controversies

Proposals to install stationary security cameras at Middlebury have surfaced repeatedly over the past two decades.

The 2015 plan to install cameras resulted in a spate of campus vandalism, according to a May 2015 report in The Campus. Graffiti sprayed around campus, some of it in support of the Black Lives Matter movement, had ignited a debate over whether or not to install cameras. In response to the proposed security response, some students spray-painted "no camera" graffiti at various locations.

An op-ed submitted by Beyond the Green in 2014 raised attention to the "hyper-policing" of minority people on and off Middlebury's campus, urging students to consider who society teaches them to be worthy of policing.

"Certain bodies are already marked as scary and criminal before they have been 'caught' committing a crime: Black and Latino bodies have historically been watched on this campus, mirroring how they are hyper-policed in the 'outside world,'" the piece reads.

The article goes on to recount an instance of a non-white, gender non-conforming student being confronted by Public Safety. The piece's authors suggest that the student was confronted because their identity made them seem to have "something to hide," arguing that "surveillance reinforces normative identities by making deviance ever visible." Installation of stationary security cameras would continue to perpetuate such systems of oppression, the piece argues.

In an editorial published in April 2015, The Campus editorial board pointed to a surge in thefts as a reason for the installation of cameras, arguing that "there is a large divide between a police state and installing surveillance cameras to protect students' belongings."

Hall, the facilities director, remembered that when he was a member of staff council in the late 1990s, the Middlebury Open-ly Gay Alliance (which has since been disbanded) posted a bulletin board that was defaced several times. Staff Council discussed placing a camera in the location of the bulletin board, but student protests ended up shuttering the plan.

"The student responded was, 'Big Brother's watching. We don't want it'," Hall said.

Peer institutions

Many of Middlebury's peer institutions have been using stationary security cameras for years. But few of them equip safety officers with wearable body cameras.

Bowdoin College has had a stationary camera system in place since 2000. A 2005 report on Bowdoin's security surveillance network describes a system of 50 CVC-GANZ high-resolution digital color cameras that store video data for up to five weeks before deletion. The cameras were an "invaluable tool" in solving on-campus crimes, Bowdoin's then-director of security said.

Colby College was one of the first schools to equip its public safety officers with wearable body cameras, according to Burchard. A July 2017 Patrol Procedures Summary for Colby's security staff states that "body camera footage will be reviewed and interviews will be conducted by the Dean's Office" in the event of a Colby student failing to show a security officer their ID upon request.

Burchard and Provost said that as plans for both stationary cameras and wearable body cameras develop, students, faculty and staff will have the opportunity to weigh in on the discussion through Community Council meetings and other forums.

Arts and communication fields make up foremost employers of 2018 graduates

Continued from Page 1

offerings in the future, according to its website.

The CCI also created a program called "Student Treks" in 2017, which brings students on themed trips where they learn about a career pathway through meeting alumni, visiting their worksites, and shadowing them on the job.

Eight times a year, the center's Field Guide program brings five or six alumni, who all shared the same major but have gone on to diverse careers, to speak with students. The CCI also brings alumni who work in the same industry, regardless of their major, through a program called Up Next.

"[The alumni] have always stepped up when asked. Now all these vehicles are set up where they can really channel their energy and enthusiasm for our students," Burns said. In the last academic year, 500 alumni engaged in on and off campus programming.

This year, the CCI created Midd2Midd, an online platform that connects members from across the Middlebury community. The platform hosts three programs: MiddMentors, which connects students with alumni mentors; MiddConnect, which allows students, alumni, and parents to ask for advice and share opportunities amongst each other; and MiddGroups, which hosts affinity-based communities of alumni and students.

The CCI also switched its online job-posting platform from Mojo to Handshake, both of which are sites used by colleges and universities across the country to aggregate job and internship opportunities. The switch is part of an effort to diversify the types of work Middlebury graduates pursue

Handshake makes it much easier for employers to post opportunities than Mojo, vastly increasing both the number and types of opportunities available to students, according to Burns. In the last academic year, employers posted 22,000 jobs and internships on Handshake, 10 times as many as with Mojo, on average. Middlebury students responded with 12,000 applications submitted through the site.

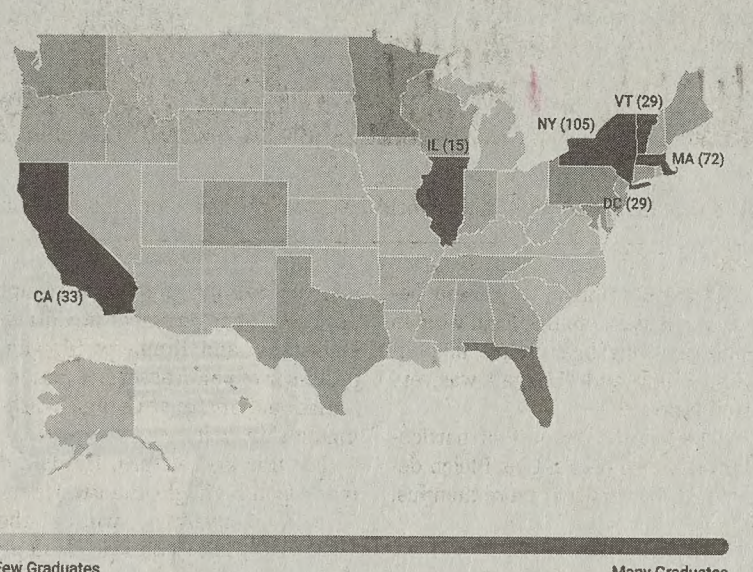
Recent shifts in industries that graduates are choosing to pursue reflect students' ever-evolving interests. For the first time in years, the fields of arts and communication constitute the foremost employer for the class of 2018, according to a survey by the Office of Assessment & Institutional Research (OAIR) conducted six months after their graduation. Financial services, usually the most popular field, came in second, followed by education, consulting, technology, and science and health, amongst others. Social justice forms the smallest employment sector accounting for just 5% of those employed. However, Burns cautioned that these rankings do not tell the full story, as many jobs overlap categories.

While only 11% of the class of 2018 immediately pursued post-graduate education after graduation, 50% reported that they intend to do so within the next five years, according to the OAIR survey. Out of the NESCAC schools, Burns said Middlebury is on the lower end of the spectrum in terms of how many students transition straight to graduate school. While both Amherst and Hamilton also reported that 11% of the class of 2018 immediately entered post graduate school, 15% of Bowdoin students, 19% of Tufts students, and 20% of Connecticut College students continued their education directly after completing undergrad. Burns said she sees this difference as a strength rather than a weakness.

"Graduate schools feel that students get more out of grad school, and grad school get more out of students when students have been out in the world and are more mature," she said.

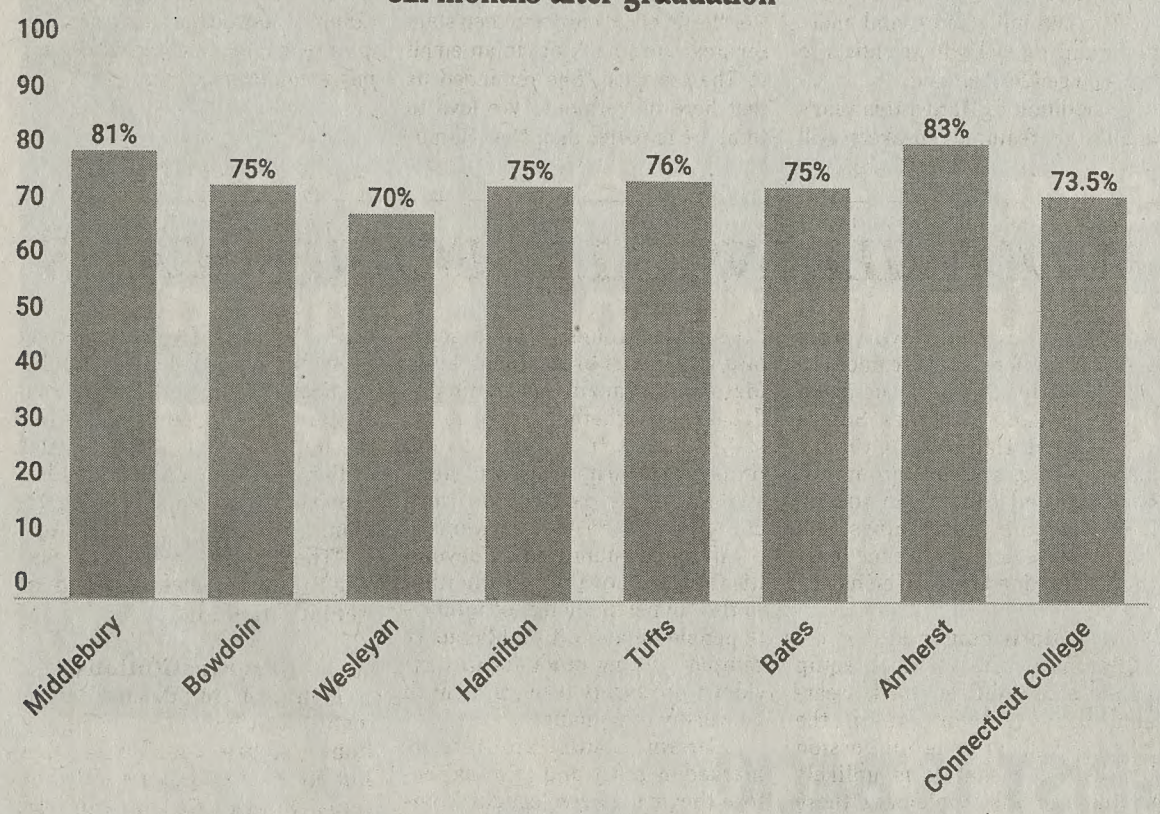
The center also aims to increase levels of participation by younger students in its activities and counseling. Burns encouraged students to come to the CCI early and often to prepare themselves and reduce stress come graduation. The center offers drop in hours with peer career advisors every afternoon, and students can sign up for longer meeting with staff on Handshake.

Class of 2019 geographic distribution of employment

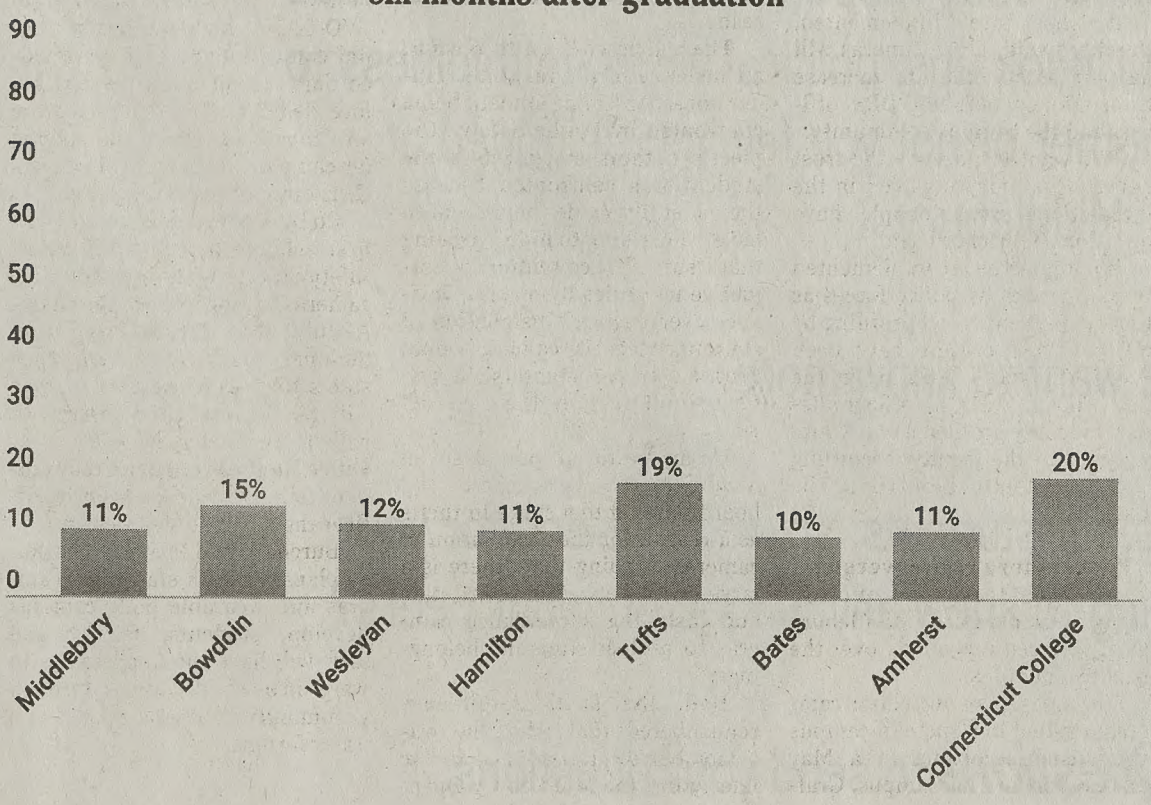


* Note: 25 people working outside US

Class of 2018 employment rates compared to NESCAC peers, six months after graduation



Class of 2018 rates of post-graduate education enrollment, six months after graduation

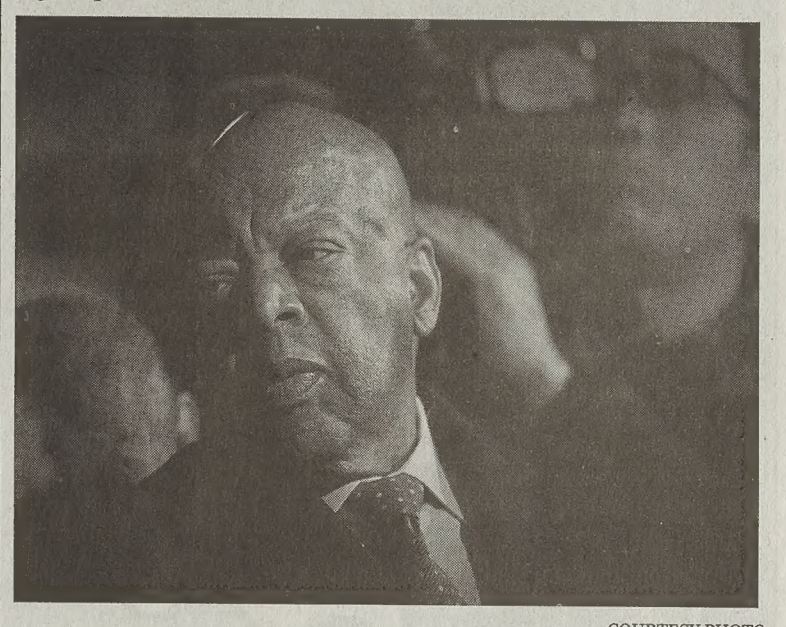


Says Rep. John Lewis, "We've come a distance, but we still have a distance to go"

By EMILY BALLOU
Contributing Writer

"Hate is too heavy a burden to bear."

This is one of the sentiments that U.S. Congressman John Lewis (D-Ga.) expressed when he spoke at the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts in Burlington on Monday, Oct. 7. The talk was also live streamed in the Mahaney Center for the Arts for students and community members who wanted to attend without leaving campus.



COURTESY PHOTC

Lewis is the last remaining member of the "Big Six" civil rights leaders of the 1960s, along with Martin Luther King Jr., Philip Randolph, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young Jr. and James Farmer Jr.

Lewis said his commitment to fight hate continues to drive his dedication to the civil rights movement. He visited Vermont to speak about his graphic novel trilogy, "March," and how the stories relate to our current political and social climate.

"March," co-authored by Andrew Aydin and illustrated by Nate Powell, is about Lewis and his life's work as an activist. Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s radio broadcasts, Lewis highlights the challenges he faced and his journey to where he is today.

"March" is also the Vermont Reads selection for this year by the Vermont Humanities Council, one of the sponsors of the event.

Lewis, who was introduced by Senator Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), spoke to a sold-out audience about the book, his experiences in the civil rights movement and its continuation today, growing up in rural Alabama and what he sees as modern social justice issue priorities.

Lewis is the last remaining member of the "Big Six" civil rights leaders of the 1960s, along with Martin Luther King Jr., Philip Randolph, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young Jr. and James Farmer Jr. In the pursuit of social justice, Lewis has dedicated his life to nonviolent protests and activism. When Lewis was younger, he participated in the Freedom Rides to challenge public transportation segregation, and organized demonstrations to oppose segregation at lunch counters in Nashville, Tenn.

Lewis said that every year, he travels back to Alabama to retrace the route from Selma to Montgomery that he marched for human rights for people of color.

At the talk, Lewis recounted the dehumanization he felt as a child when he was denied a library card due to the color of his skin, and a memory of where he was beaten by police officers and woke up in the hospital with Martin Luther King, Jr. standing by his side.

Lewis has experienced multiple arrests and injuries over the years from his involvement in nonviolent protests. He considers each of his 45 arrests worthwhile — 40 of which took place in the 1960s, and another five of which occured since he was elected to congress.

At the event, Lewis emphasized the importance of nonviolent protesting, and the significance of using adversity as fuel for positive change.

"Those of us who got involved in the sit-ins in 1960 — we embedded, hard, the essence of ["March"] in our very souls," he said.

"Every time we were beaten, arrested and jailed, we didn't strike back," Lewis continued. "We destroyed by sitting in."

Melanie Chow '22 attended the talk in Burlington with members of her Race, Rhetoric, and Protest class. She was moved by hearing Lewis speak — immediately after returning from the event, she ordered a copy of the book herself.

"A lot of people are activists when they're younger and then they stop, but [Rep. Lewis] never did — he never stopped working, never stopped caring," she said.

Chow felt the event added nuance to some of the history lessons students typically learn in school.

"We learn about the civil rights movement in history class in high school, but those lessons are his life," she said. "He was there — he lived through those experiences, and it's really inspiring."

Olivia Peterson '21, who attended the talk with her African American Literature class, expressed a similar sentiment.

"During Lewis' talk I found myself repeatedly hit with the realization that the man on stage before me was actually there during the rise of the sit-ins, there for the Freedom Rides, for the March on Washington, for countless beatings and moments in between," Peterson said, "This came as a vivid reminder of how recent the civil rights movement truly is."

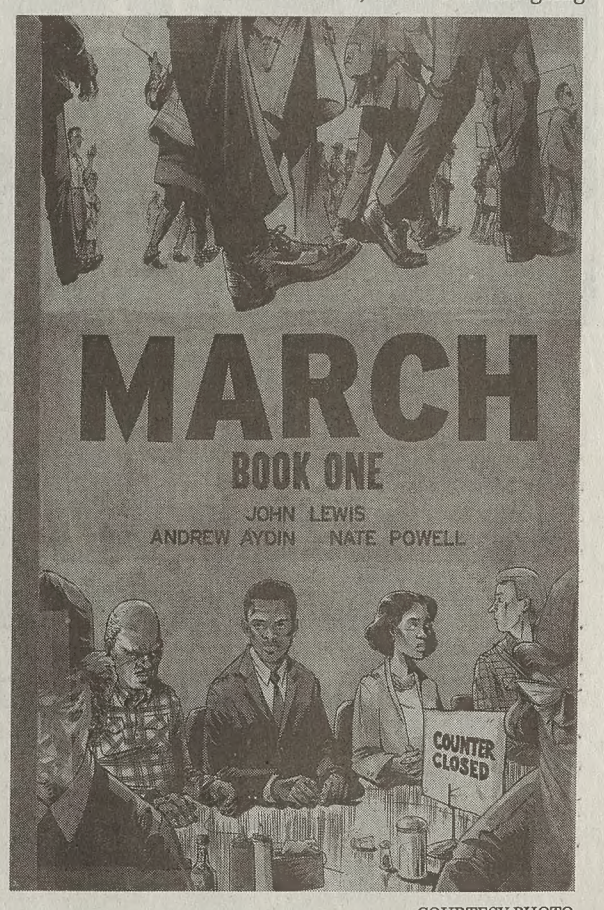
Peterson left feeling inspired by Lewis' call to action.

"Hearing John Lewis advocate for making the 'good and necessary' kind of trouble is effectively a call to not get complacent in the comfort of being part of the dominant majority," she said.

Lewis closed his speech by bringing attention to the current state of the nation, and the unruly attitudes that spew hatred toward American minorities.

"We've come a distance, but we still have a distance to go," Lewis said. "Today in America, there are forces trying to take us back. We've come too far, and we're not going back."

"You have to make a little noise. You have to get in the way, and you have to get in good trouble, necessary trouble," Lewis said of his experiences as an organizer. "When you see something that is not right, not fair, not just, you have a moral obligation to say something, to do something, to speak up, and speak out."

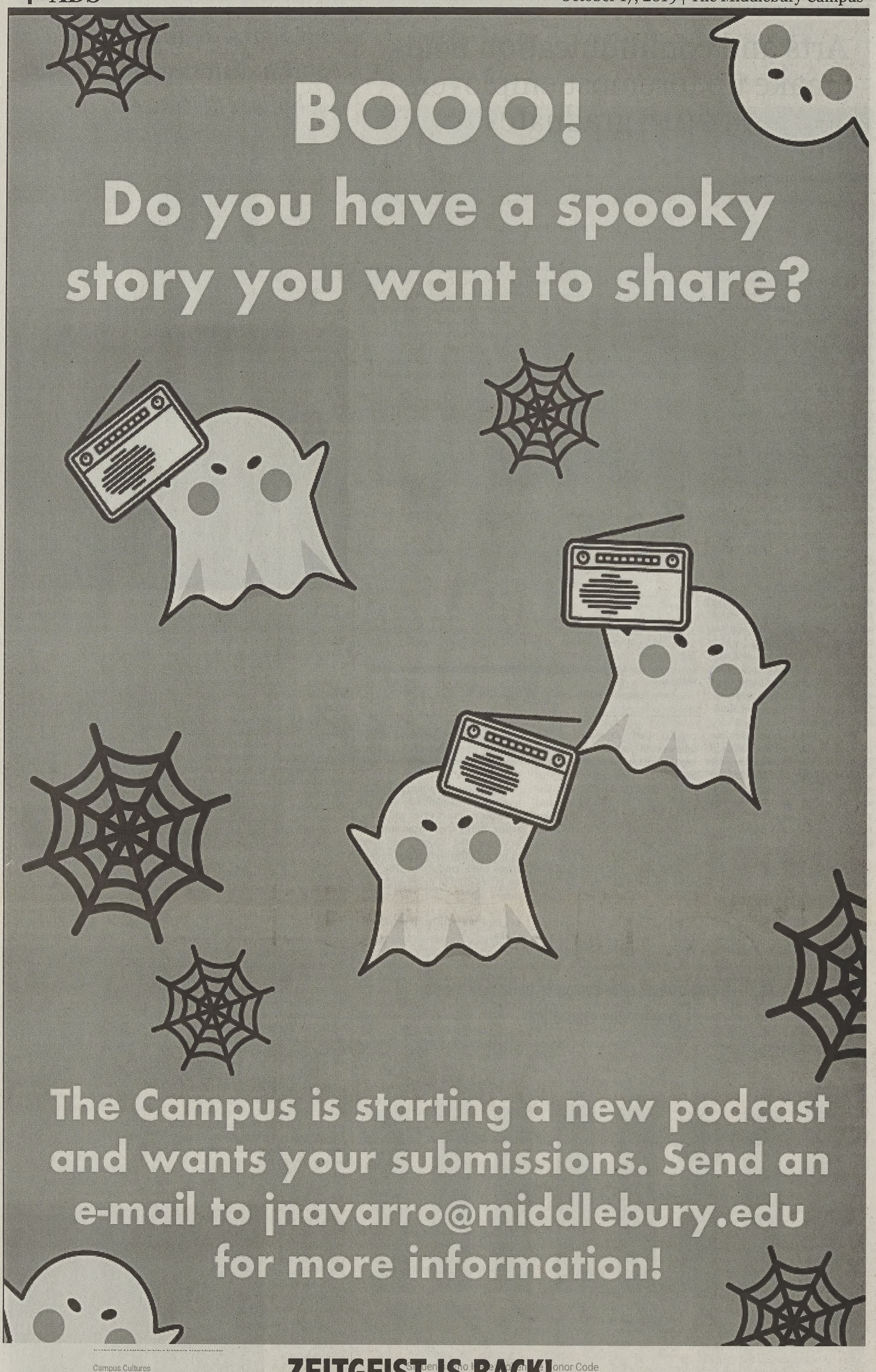


COURTESY PHOTO

John Lewis co-authored "March," a graphic novel triology about his life as a civil rights activist.

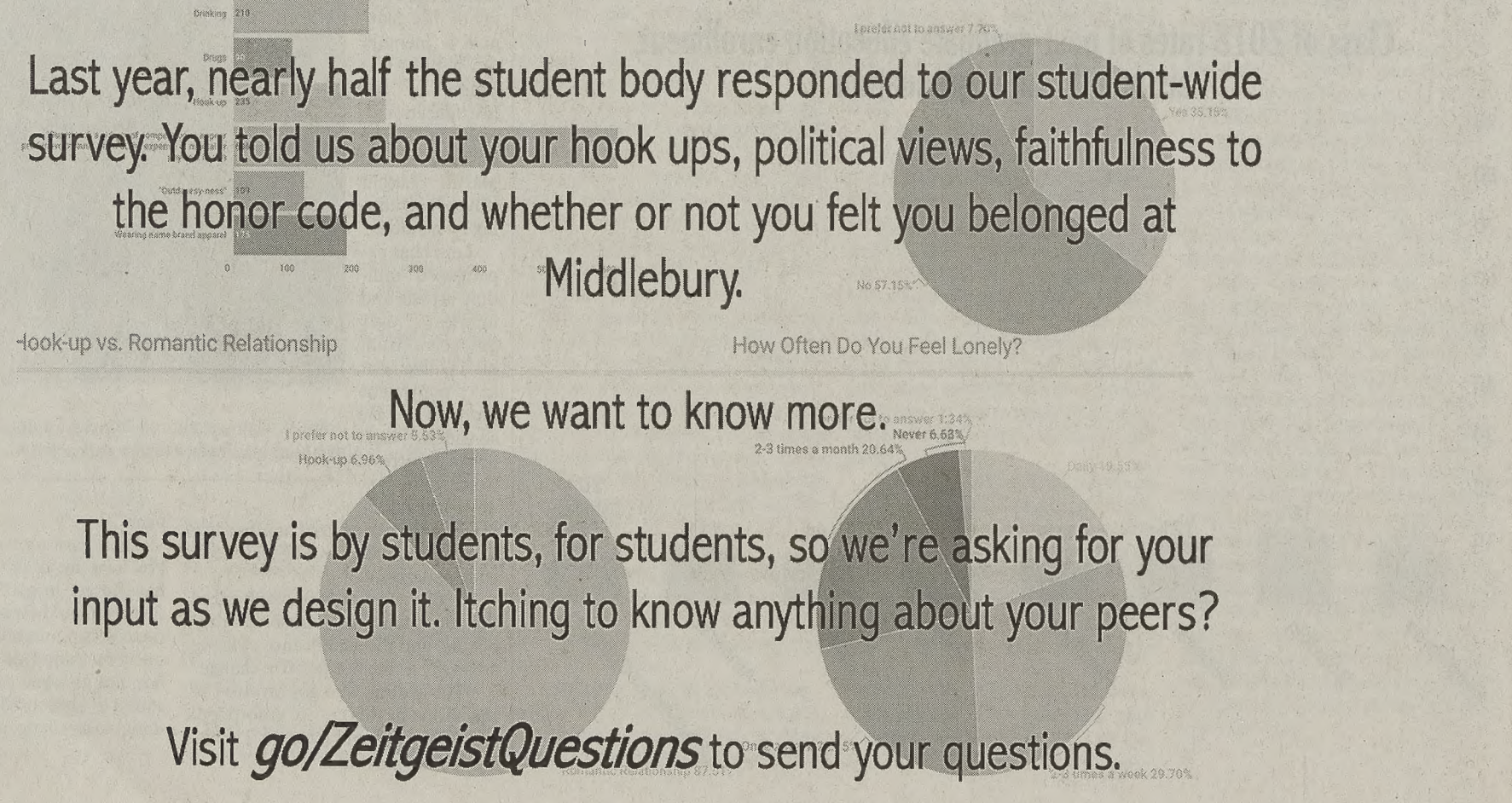
BOOO!

Do you have a spooky story you want to share?



The Campus is starting a new podcast and wants your submissions. Send an e-mail to jnavarro@middlebury.edu for more information!

ZEITGEIST IS BACK!

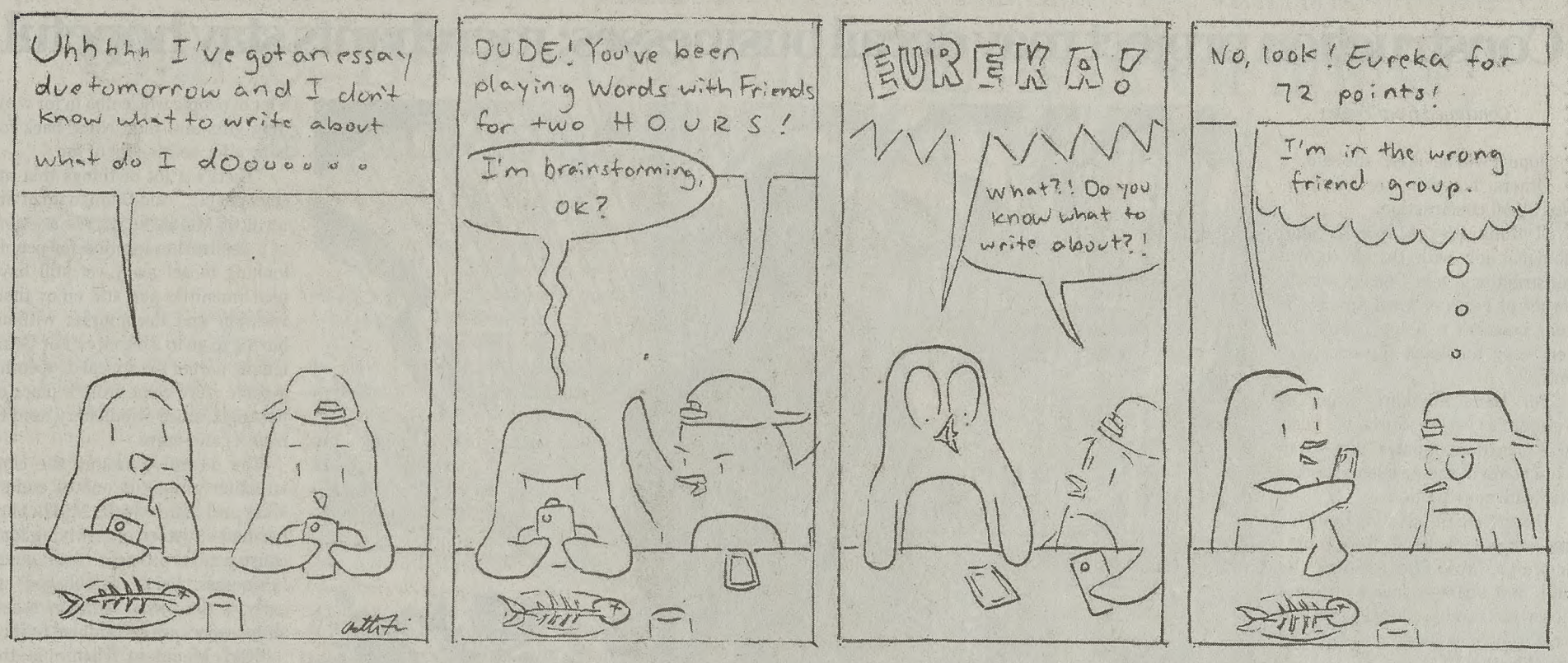


Last year, nearly half the student body responded to our student-wide survey. You told us about your hook ups, political views, faithfulness to the honor code, and whether or not you felt you belonged at Middlebury.

Now, we want to know more.

This survey is by students, for students, so we're asking for your input as we design it. Itching to know anything about your peers?

Visit ***go/ZeitgeistQuestions*** to send your questions.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DUDE! You've been playing Words with Friends for two HOURS!
I'm brainstorming, OK?
EUREKA!
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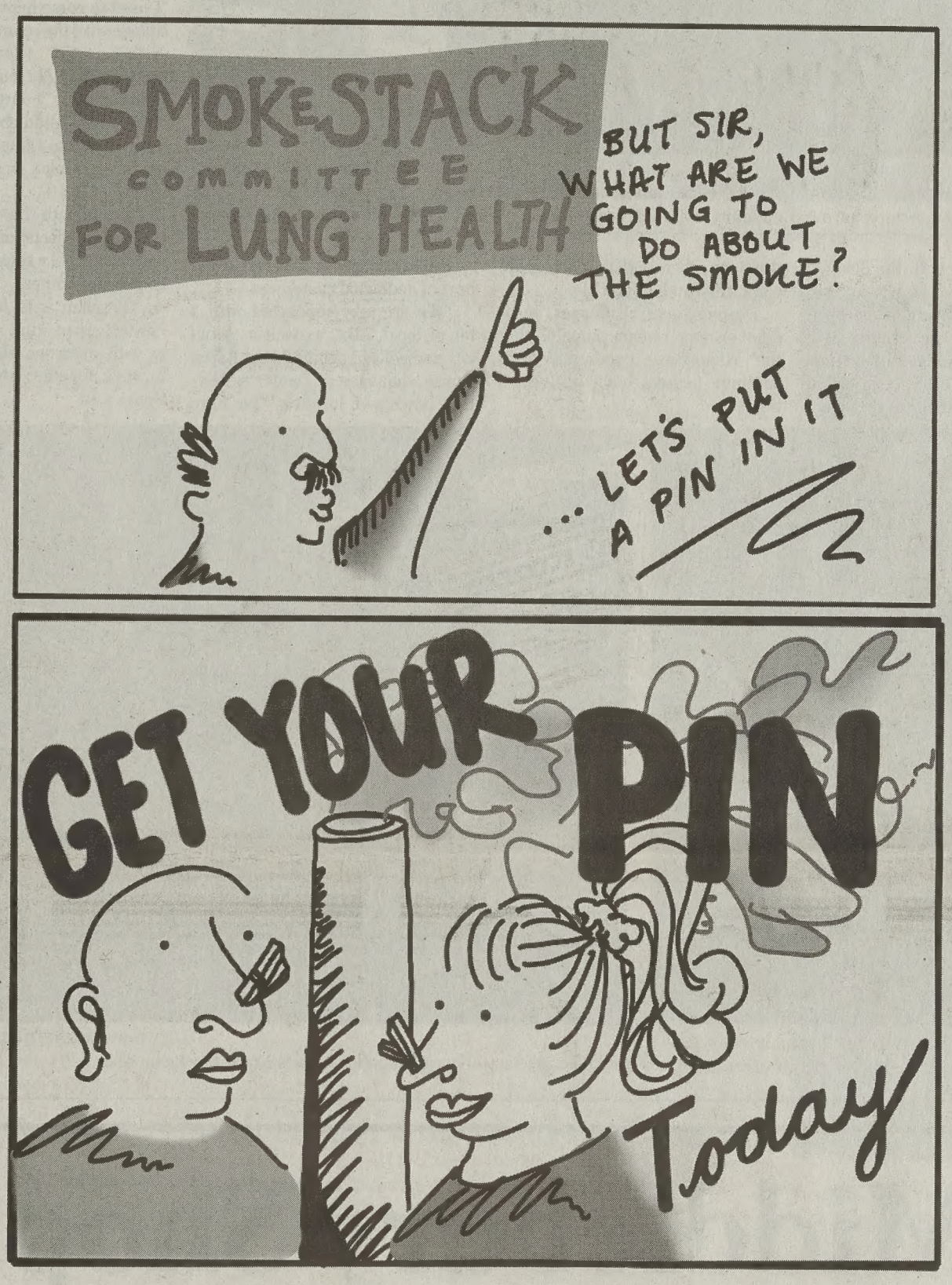
THIN ICE by ARTHUR FURNISS



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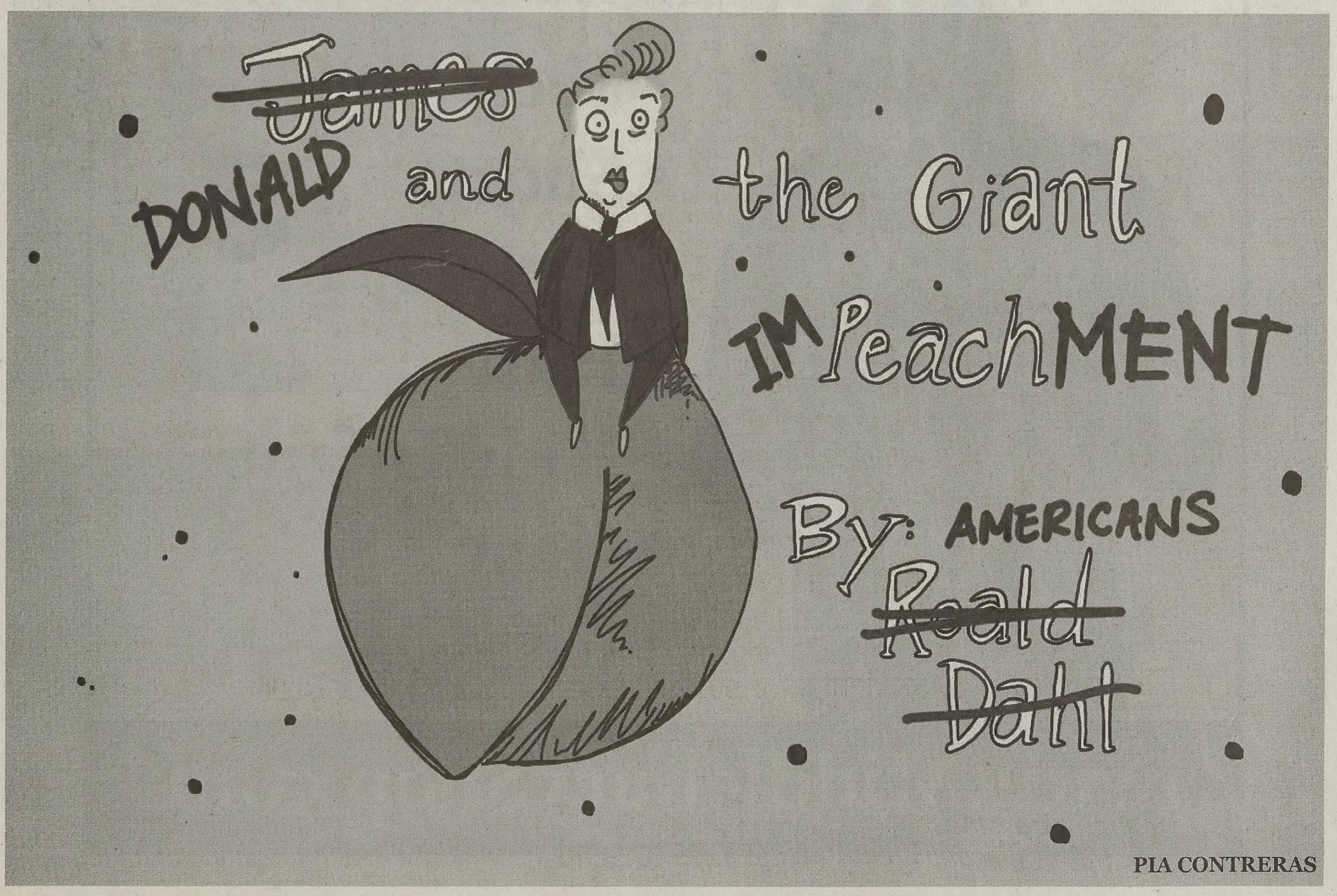


PIA CONTRERAS

Construction project may derail businesses; merchants stay hopeful

Continued from Page 1

hope it will be okay," she said.

Others, however, are less worried about construction.

"I think they're doing a phenomenal job with the downtown construction," said Dan McIntosh, owner of Forth N' Goal Sports. "If your business is doing poorly, it's very easy to blame the construction."

For Dana Franklin, owner of Vermont's Own Products, his business' location situates him away from some of the problems associated with construction.

"I don't see this as a big thing for me, because we already have another bridge, Cross Street Bridge," he said, "but I can see how a business closer to the construction site can have problems with parking and stuff like that."

Some merchants spoke to other reasons regarding dwindling patronship. Paula Israel, owner of Wild Mountain Thyme, contributed the slowing of business to a greater focus on Main Street, not the Bridge and Rail Project.

"There's always parking available, and you're still going to get amazing service when you walk through the door," Israel said.

Israel called for more students from the college to patronize local businesses. "It would be nice if college students have more awareness of their surroundings and shopping locally," she said, "and giving back to a community that has more than welcomed them."

Scott Gemignani, owner of Tinker and Smithy Game Store, spoke of his frustration with the delay of project's start date to 2017.

"I think the onus and the ownership is on our community as a whole, because we could have had this done years ago," Gemignani said. "But now that we've waited this long, there's that much more work, time and money."

Despite these challenges, business owners remain hopeful that the Middlebury community will continue to help town businesses thrive.

Danforth Pewter also has a cohort of dedicated customers.

"We are very connected with a lot of local folks, as well as tourists and college people," said Karen Douse, manager of Danforth Pewter's downtown location. "We have a lot of people who come in for wedding gifts and then come back for baby gifts, so it's a lot of fun."

"There's a lot of things that attract people," said Gemignani of the town of Middlebury. "We are sort of a destination location for people looking to get away yet still have nice amenities and still enjoy their vacation and decompress without having to go to a big city." For Gemignani, part of the appeal of opening a game store came from a place of nostalgia, since Middlebury used to have a game store.

The narrative around the construction project is one of endurance and hard work. Middlebury has had a history of surviving long construction projects, with many businesses being established as early as the 1970s. In many cases, shopkeepers are determined to stay.

"Old Mountain Thyme is the oldest business in town that has been singularly owned for as of this month, 48 years," Israel said. "I used to come here when I was in college with my roommate."

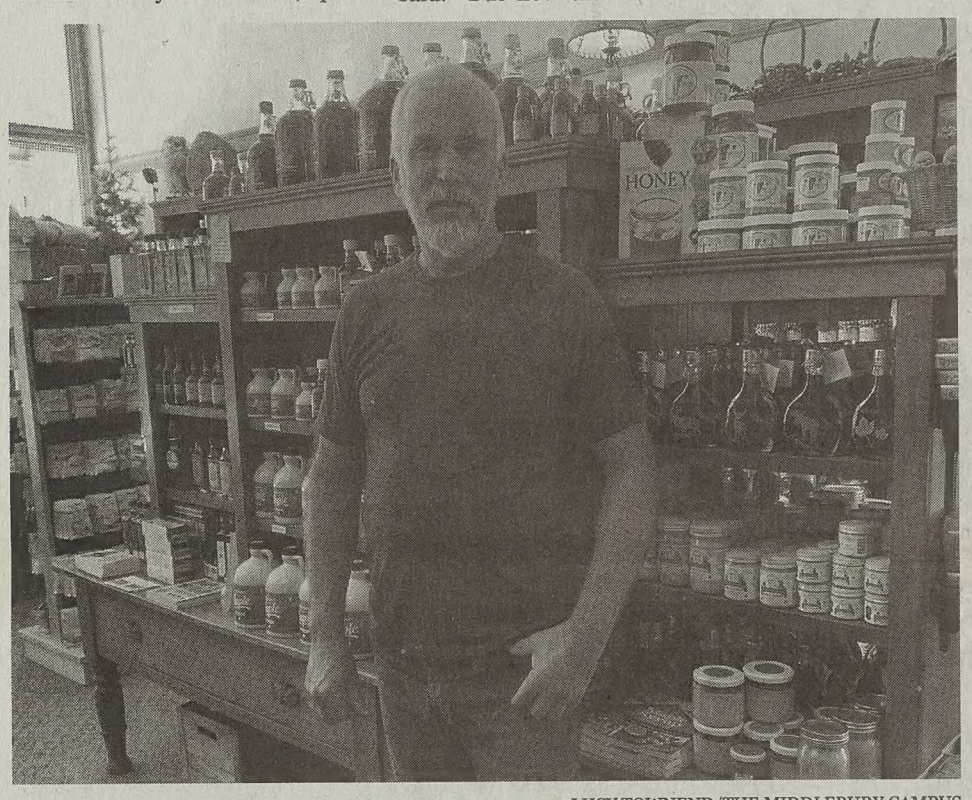
"I started [Vermont's Own Products] in Shelburne in 1986," Franklin said. "Fourteen years ago, I moved to Middlebury. I've gone through worse things than this already, so I plan on staying for a while."

Despite both the short-term and long-term effects of construction, merchants feel a sense of community with each other.

"Our plan is to keep [Danforth Pewter] open kind of in solidarity with everyone else — we need to stick together and stay open," Douse said.

LUCY TOWNEND/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Scott Gemignani, owner of Tinker and Smithy Game Store, is frustrated with the project's prolonged pace. "I think the onus and the ownership is on our community as a whole because we could have had this done years ago," he said.



LUCY TOWNEND/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Dana Franklin, owner of Vermont's Own Products on Main Street, is less worried about construction.

LUCY TOWNEND/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Anita Borlak '23 works with founder Jutta Miska at Buy Again Alley.

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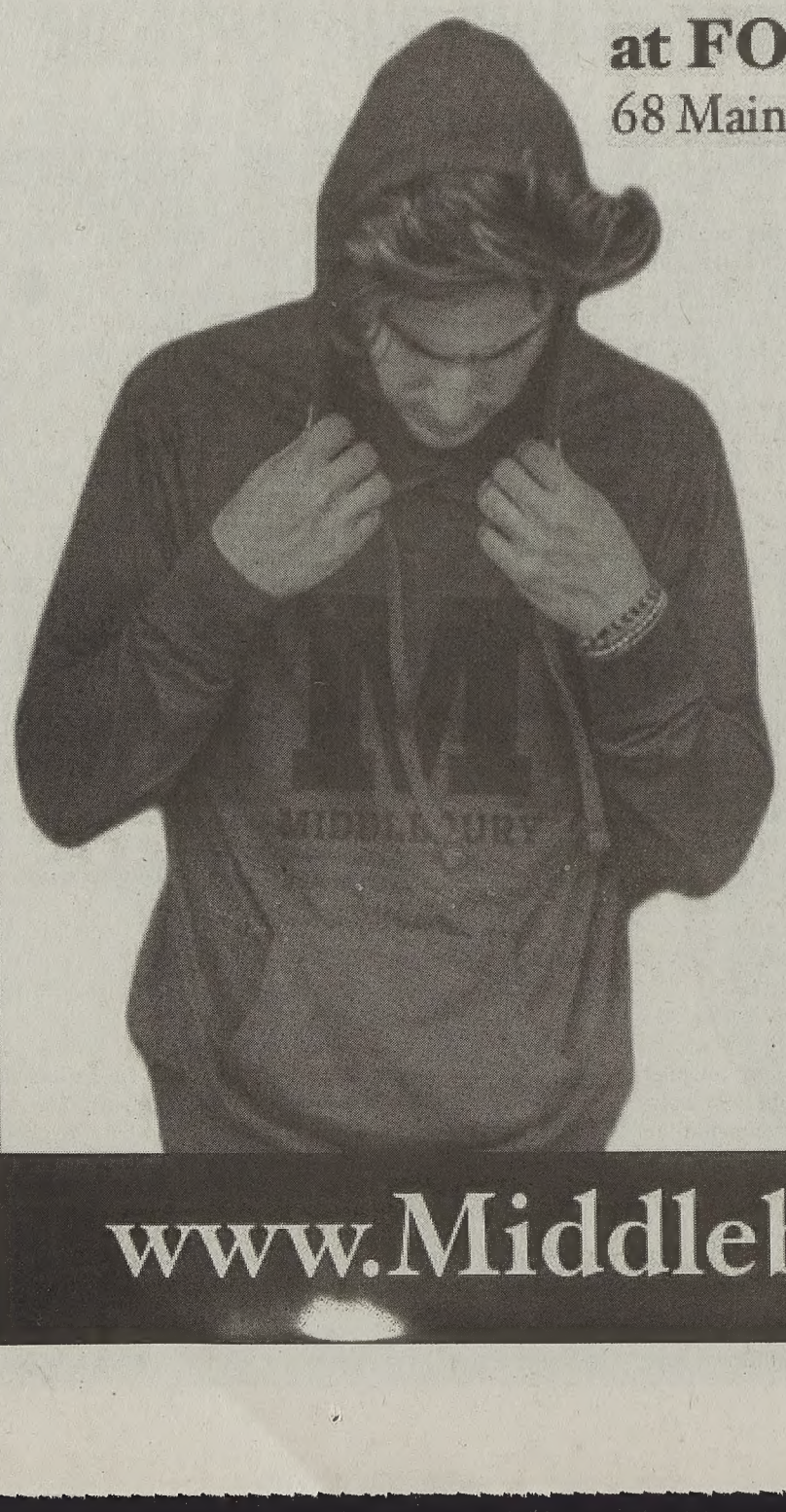

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Charter House Coalition hosts open house, expands services and renovates

By KAITLYN GIROUARD
Contributing Writer

After years of significantly increased demand for its services in the Addison County community, the Middlebury Charter House was open this summer for the first time in its 15–year history. To celebrate this milestone, its recent renovations, program advancements and general success with providing basic food and housing for Addison County residents in need, the house hosted an open house this past Saturday.

The Charter House, a nonprofit and volunteer-based organization located at 27 North Pleasant St., has previously only been open Oct. 15 through April 22.

"Our board had a long term goal a couple of years ago to see if we could stay open year–round," Charter House Co-Director Doug Sinclair said.

At the open house, Charter House board members and volunteers gave visitors tours of the newly updated and changing facilities, talked with volunteers about their work and enjoyed some snacks with good company.

There were signs throughout the house with information about the services the coalition offers and the renovations that are underway. One sign stated that in 2019, the house has so far provided 7,047 bed nights — or the number of individuals multiplied by the number of nights — and 40,000 meals. Sinclair said that this is consistent with the 15% yearly growth rate the program has experienced since it started in 2004 — from its humble origins as a provider of Friday night meals to a year–round, 24/7 operating facility.

Board member Dutton Smith said the board noticed in the past few years that there was an increasing number of people sleeping under the bridge in town over the summer. "It's not just a seasonal problem," he said.

Charter House would have liked to be open year-round in the past, but the extra season adds significant costs that just weren't feasible given its budget. Despite this obstacle, members felt passionate about addressing the need.

"We were able to raise some additional funds from the community, so we made the decision in March of this past year to keep the shelter open for individuals through the entire summer," Sinclair explained.

The shelter has facilities to support both families and individuals, but found that in the summer, individual adults were most commonly in need of support.

"The shelters have been at capacity or above all summer; the need is there," Sinclair said.

Charter House is happy to serve the community in this additional capacity but is still struggling with funding for the next summer. The extended season costs are about $65,000, and, so far, it has only been able to raise about two-thirds of that sum. "Our goal is to now keep the shelter open year-round, but it really depends on what our financial position is when we get to next March," Sinclair said.

These significant costs are particularly troubling at this time because of the ongoing renovation projects the Charter House is currently spearheading. "We realized three years ago that there were a lot of things the building needed," Sinclair said. With the house being 240 years old, some of the projects are just a result of wear and tear over time; others are in accordance with efforts to make the building fully accessible given funding regulations.

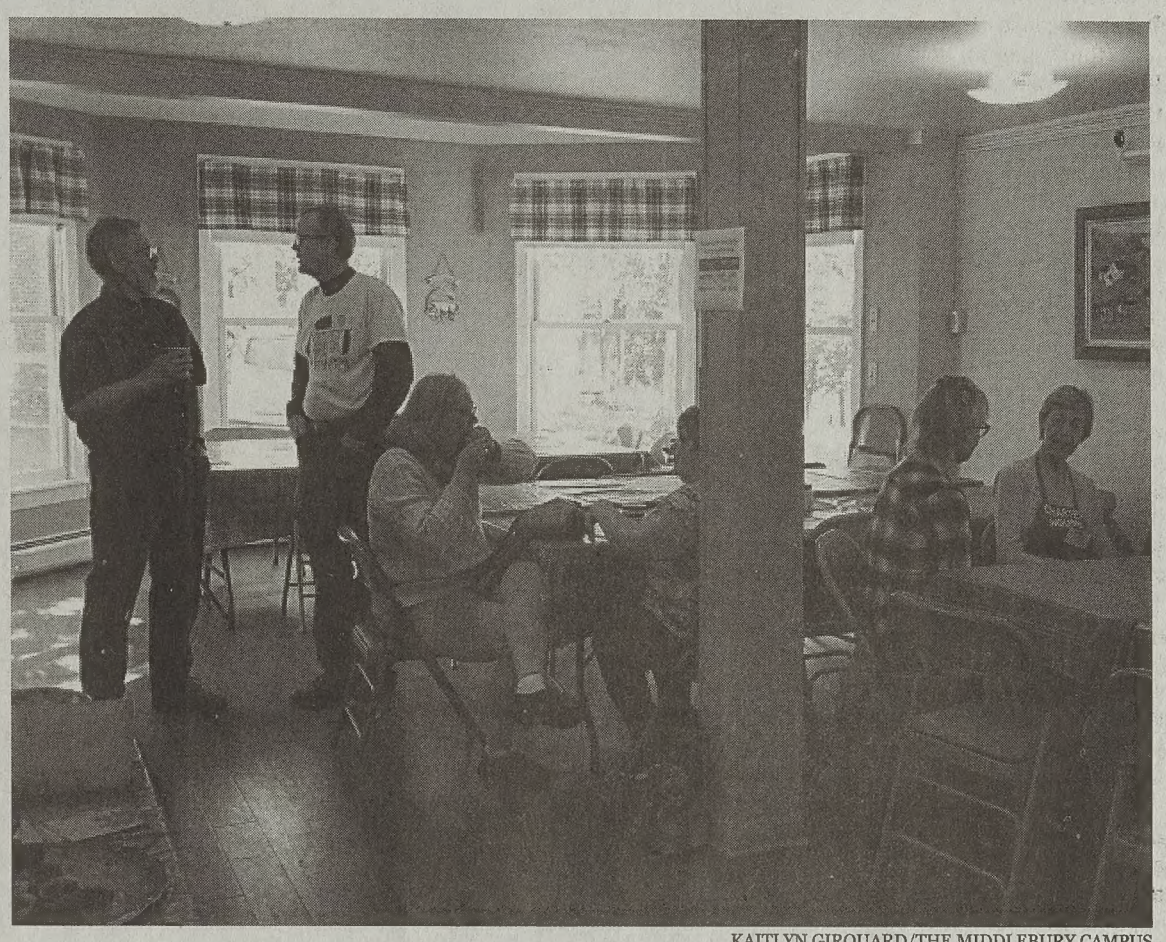
One of the projects is an installation of an elevator which costs $70,000, according to Sinclair. Due to a state regulation, the initially planned elevator had to be relocated to the back of the building, costing an additional $40,000.

This was not the only time a renovation cost exceeded its original budget. One of the largest projects, a brand new kitchen, ultimately cost the program $140,000 — $30,000 higher than expected.

"You start to open up the walls in an old building and construction is much more expensive because the old walls either aren't adequately supported or they're just deteriorating," Sinclair said. Problems with support beams in the kitchen space not only added that extra cost, but also extended construction by a month.

The house also installed an upgraded heating and air conditioning system at a cost of $84,000. Smith noted that the addition of air conditioning is extremely helpful given the house's new summer services.

Additionally, the building underwent asbestos remediation at a cost $48,000, added an accessible full bath ($60,000), added access ramps ($20,000), removed an old boiler system and completely weatherized the building to minimize heat loss. All of these projects improve the building and services of Charter House, but inevitably put a financial burden on the program. "We actually started eating into our operational reserves in order to finish the work this summer," Sinclair said.



KAITLYN GIROUARD/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Charter House's open house last Saturday attracted board members, volunteers and visitors for tours of the newly renovated facility.

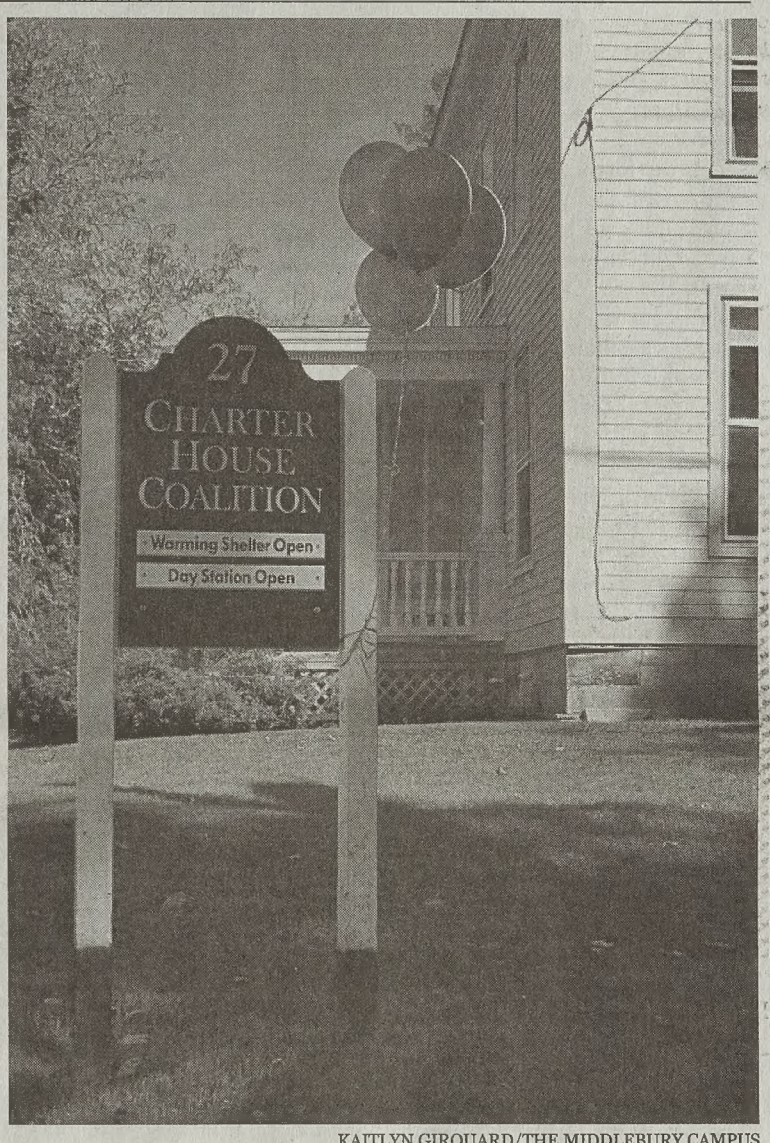
To meet the house's increasing needs and growing costs, Charter House relies heavily on the work of volunteers. These volunteers are usually students and retirees.

Board Member Vicky Wideman '89 emphasized that the program is only able to succeed because of the volunteers. Wideman once heard a child staying at the house say: "I had the best day on Saturday! I played with a college student."

Wideman said that for many of the residents, the relationships they build with the volunteers — especially with college athletes, many of whom volunteer to meet their teams' community service component — is what is truly special about the space.

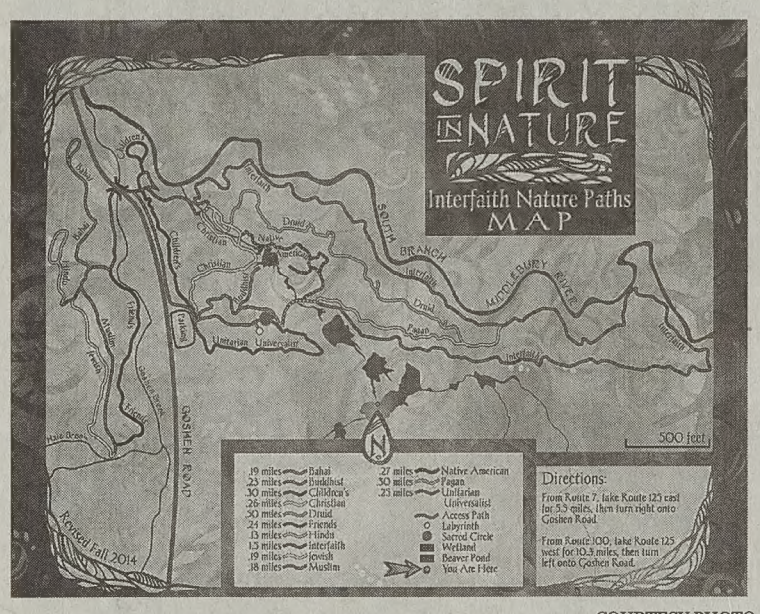
Middlebury College students who are interested in getting involved with Charter House are invited to contact Emily Carfi '21, president of the Charter House student organization, at ecarfi@middlebury.edu. "We are always looking for more volunteers, that's the main thing," Carfi said.

Students and community members can also visit charterhousecoalition.org for more information and to get in touch with the co-directors of Charter House.



KAITLYN GIROUARD/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Recently open throughout this past summer, the Charter House hopes to raise enough funds to remain open through next summer.

Spirit in Nature trail system is naturally sublime



COURTESY PHOTO
A map shows the Spirit in Nature (SPiN) trails off Goshen Road in Ripton.

COURTESY PHOTO
At the center of all 14 trails, including paths based in faith traditions from Druid to Buddhism, is the Sacred Circle.

By TAYLOR PHILLIPS
Online Editor

Tucked away in the foothills of the Green Mountains, the Spirit in Nature Interfaith Path (SPiN) Sanctuary provides a haven for contemplation, reflection and interfaith dialogue.

The series of walking trails in Ripton, Vt. is intended to "connect the experience of nature with faith traditions," according to the SPiN website. Each of the 14 paths is designated a specific faith and is bespeckled periodically with posted quotes, designed to provoke thoughtful interaction with the natural world. All paths lead to the Sacred Circle, a clearing in the trees that centers the entire sanctuary. The faith traditions range from Druid to Buddhist, including Interfaith and Pagan trails.

The inspiration for the sanctuary came in 1997 with the Dalai Lama's historic visit to Middlebury College. During his time on campus, the Dalai Lama gave a talk entitled "Spirit and Nature," which connected interaction with the natural world and practicing faith. Carol and Reg Spooner, current board members of Spirit in Nature and environmental activists, took the talk to heart and created the Spirit in Nature Interfaith Path Sanctuary.

After a series of negotiations, the Spooners convinced then-President of Middlebury College John McCardell to lease them college-owned forest land, eventually settling on SPiN's current location just off Highway 125, near Ripton.

In fact, the sanctuary's history is indelibly intertwined with that of the college, from its original inspiration at a college lecture to its location on college land, Middlebury College students have historically engaged with SPiN, walking on the trails and volunteering their time to the sanctuary. Several students have even served on the SPiN board, including Ella Houlihan '21. She learned about the sanctuary from the Spooners, who she got to know while working in town and was inspired to take time and explore the area, eventually leading to her role on their board.

"Few students know about (SPiN)," Houlihan said. "It's an incredible study break and opportunity to admire the fall foliage and soak in the world around you."

Houlihan also noted that the board intends to actively market to Middlebury students in the future, hopefully exposing more of the student body to the remarkable experiences that SPiN has to offer. The sanctuary's most recent newsletter highlights the first-year seminar that used the sanctuary as the backdrop for its writing workshop last year. Craig Zondag, SPiN board member, led the students on a short orientation through the paths before the seminar did a writing exercise.

However, the vast majority of students seem to have never heard of SPiN, let alone visited the sanctuary themselves. And they are missing out.

SPiN is more than just a series of paths. The intention of the space is not only to facilitate interfaith dialogue, but also to foster a sense of caring for the environment. "Spirit in Nature is an antidote to seeing nature as a resource to be exploited," SPiN board member Ron Slabough said.

Slabough also explained that "forest bathing" is key to the sanctuary's mission. Forest bathing, which is a literal translation of the Japanese word "Shinrin-yoku," involves the meditative practice of bathing in the forest atmosphere, using all five senses to experience and explore the natural world. SPiN is the perfect place to forest bathe, with its multitude of trails and meditative atmosphere.

The idea of Spirit in Nature has proved popular and has spread to six other locations in the Northeast, including one in Norwich and others in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

SPiN is located just off Highway 125 on Goshen Road. To access the sanctuary, students can either drive directly there or take the ACTR bus towards the Snow Bowl, to be either dropped off at Goshen Road for a 0.4 mile walk to SPiN or sometimes riding the bus directly to the SPiN parking lot. Anyone interested in further information can visit the SPiN website at spiritinnature.org.

Greens to yellows to reds: Vermont foliage is in full effect

By ANNA WOOD
Staff Writer

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Fall foliage is in full swing in mid-October. Many locals stress that Middlebury students and staff should take advantage of the fall colors by hiking, visting other towns in the county or brushing up on different species of trees. Walking around the Breadloaf Wilderness (pictured above) is a great way to enjoy the foliage before the leaves fall later this month.

Midterms are in full swing, fall break is right around the corner and Vermont's renowned peak foliage has hit. The season is here, and with it comes brilliant bursts of color that define fall in New England. The Green Mountains show their seasonal red hue and blazing leaves wash the trees with a fiery touch.

Where can students find the best glimpse of fall? Middlebury's landscape horticulturist Tim Parsons vouches for Snake Mountain.

"It should be a graduation requirement for all students to hike Snake Mountain, if able," he said. Aside from this staple hike, Parsons recommended Bristol Cliffs and Mount Abraham.

For those staying on campus over break, Vermont Mountain's Sports and Life ranks Hunger Mountain in Waterbury and Mad River Glen in Waitsfield as two of the top nine Vermont hikes for fall foliage.

Students can even appreciate the stunning scenery without lifting a finger. "Middlebury is a gorgeous campus with really beautiful trees!" Parsons said.

Indeed, Middlebury has seen scattered sights of foliage since mid-September. Although trees turn their leaves at various rates, early foliage is a sign of environmental stress. The first trees to turn are typically stressed or hurt.

"Even the top of that really big tree, there, that's really stressed," Parsons said, pointing to a particularly bright yellow tree by McCullough Student Center. "It's my job to read trees." The black maple tree species produces a radiant red tone that is crucial to Vermont fall. Black maples thrive in cold weather, whereas oak trees, with their dull, muted gold, are more apparent in areas south of Vermont. According to Parsons' active social media presence, black maple trees' peak foliage occurred about a week earlier this year than last.

"I posted almost that exact same picture last year, but a week or two earlier," he said of his recent Instagram photo. "Two to three weeks ago, when I was seeing trees turn, that to me was a really bad sign."

According to Parsons, foliage has also been affected by the wet weather throughout the past year. Persistent wetness has led to leaf spots, mildew and diseases. Although the difference goes unnoticed, the leaves are ridden with spots that stay brown rather than turn color.

Parsons, however, is not concerned for the foliage in upcoming years. Global climate change hasn't disturbed the foliage quite yet, as foliage is prompted by daylight rather than temperature. As daylight becomes shorter, chlorophyll production slows, making way for the carotenoids that produce foliage colors.

That's not to say foliage avoids responding to climate change altogether. "In the grand scheme of things, global warming might affect foliage in the long run," Parsons said.

Environmental changes have degraded the quality of peak foliage this year. But to the bare eye, these minimal effects have not yet manifested to disrupt the spectacular fall views. Vermonters should enjoy them while they last, both in the short and long term.

"I'm saying leaves aren't as good this year, but wow, they're still great," Parsons said.

CBD in your morning coffee?

Royal Oak Coffee offers a splash of calm in their cup of joe

By BENJAMIN GLASS
Local Editor

Think drip coffee, espresso, lattés and cold brew. Among the café classics offered at Royal Oak Coffee on Seymour Street, owners Matt and Aless Delia-Lôbo stock something that might be unfamiliar to customers: CBD oil.

Since its founding last May, Royal Oak Coffee has offered hemp-extracted cannabidiol (CBD) as an addition to any of their coffee brewed in-house. According to the Food and Drug Administration and the Harvard Medical School Blog, CBD is a non-psychoactive phytocannabinoid found in cannabis that has been gaining popularity within the food industry in the last few years for its physical calming effects. The Delia-Lôbos offer Elmore Mountain Therapeutics (EMT) CBD oil, which is dosed using a graduated syringe and mixed directly into drip-coffees or espresso drink after brewing.

"Right now, we are focusing on seeing if the community is into CBD," Matt Delia-Lôbo said. "It seems like it hasn't caught on yet, but CBD is also not going away soon." CBD has less than .3% THC — the psychoactive chemical in weed — by volume, which means the product does not get you "high." Although it has no intoxicative effects, many coffee shop owners and CBD vendors in the area attest to the relaxing effects that occur after ingesting CBD.

Ashley Reynolds of Elmore Mountain Therapeutics (EMT), a vendor of medical grade cannabidiol products, said that CBD can help regulate the body's endocannabinoid system, which is important in times of stress, for example.

"Most peoples' endo-cannabinoid system needs a reset of some kind," Reynolds said. "In a normal situation we have naturally occurring cannabinoids going around our system, but if we aren't taking care of [ourselves], our body is put into an unregulated system."

Reynolds said that adding CBD to your diet can better regulate your own naturally occurring cannabinoids. "Supplementing [your diet] with phyto-cannabinoids found in hemp plants, like CBD, unlocks your body's ability to get a boost to natural endogenous cannabinoid structure," she said.

Since most people consume coffee in the morning, Reynolds said taking a dose of CBD at this time is a great way to get more cannabinoids in your system as an organic part of your daily routine.

"Some folks don't like that herbal floral cannabis-taste," she said, "so coffee is a nice way to get [CBD] into the body in a really enjoyable way." EMT partners with cafes across Vermont and the north-east, including Royal Oak Coffee, to offer a single dose and low entry cost CBD oil.

As a new company, Royal Oak is still exploring how well CBD-infused coffee is being perceived by its Addison County customer base. East of the Green Mountains in Woodstock, Vt., Abracadabra Coffee Co. has successfully produced and sold a cold brew coffee with full-spectrum CBD oil. Dubbed the "Chill Brew," Abracadabra has offered the product since its opening in 2015.

"[Chill Brew] sales have been great," said Abracadabra business partner Sarah Yetter. "The product was really well-received and we've gotten international attention because of it."

Yetter said that although some people think the calming effect of CBD and the alertness of caffeine oppose each other, the combination works well. "We like to say that it makes you calm and alert," she said. "It doesn't cancel each other out and gives you the best of both worlds.'

Abracadabra receives all its full-spectrum CBD from Luce Farms up the road in Stockbridge, Vt. "[Luce] does everything right, top to bottom," Yetter said. "We would much rather use a Vermont product with people that we know and like than importing from a farm somewhere else."

For the Delia-Lôbos, the flavor of their coffee is important to their company's mission. They said the citric components of the CBD oil can work well with the fruity notes of drip coffee. Royal Oak houses a special syringe that measures CBD oil by volume, so that each coffee has the same amount added.

Lost Monarch, the sister company of Royal Oak Coffee, set to open later this month, will stock Abracadabra Coffee Co. products, including the Chill Brew. Royal Oak Coffee is open weekdays from 7 a.m. – 4 p.m. (excluding Tuesdays), Saturdays from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., and Sundays from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Abracadabra Coffee Co. is open weekend days from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., with rotating food trucks every week.

BENJAMIN GLASS/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Royal Oak Coffee uses CBD Oil from Elmore Mountain Therapeutics. Owner Matt Delia-Lôbos stressed that each cannabodiol dose is measured accurately and precisely with a graduated syringe (seen above).

COURTESY PHOTO

The "Chill Brew": a full-spectrum CBD-infused cold brew offered by Abracadabra Coffee Co. based out of Woodstock, Vermont. Abracadabra Coffee Co. products will be sold at Lost Monarch, the sister-company of Royal Oak Coffee opening in the Old Stone Mill. Some establishments in the Old Stone Mill are opening later this month.

THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

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The Middlebury Campus

Take the class to the classroom

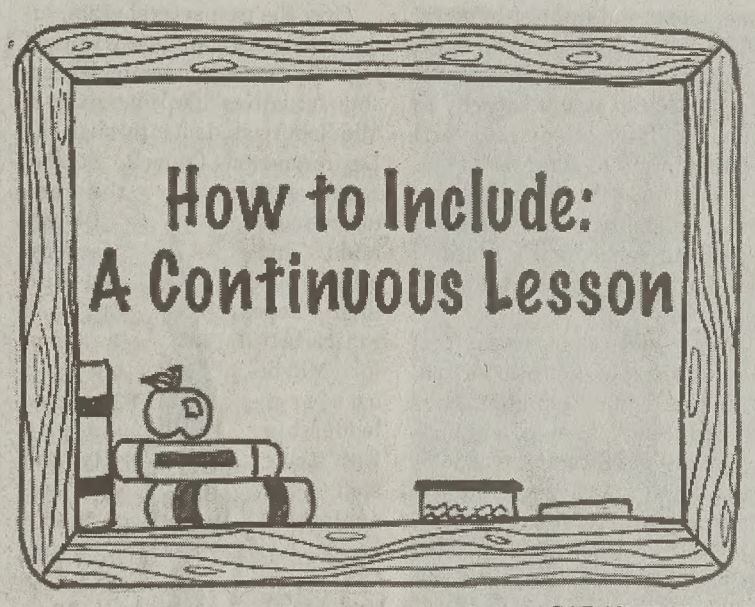
The word "inclusivity" gets thrown around a lot. At Middlebury, we commit time and time again to building an inclusive campus, to creating inclusive communities that stage inclusive conversations. Still, people rarely seem sure what inclusivity actually *looks* like — it's much easier to say what it doesn't look like, or to identify spaces in which doesn't exist.

And so we as a board are impressed with the college's new Inclusive Practitioners Program, which aims to implement tangible inclusivity measures in Middlebury classrooms and around campus more generally. The program, designed by Director of Education for Equity and Inclusion Renee Wells, is comprised of 14 different workshops related to inclusivity and anti-bias, from dealing with difficult student comments to properly using students' preferred gender pronouns.

Although these classes are optional, we ask that faculty attend.

We've seen firsthand why this kind of training is so important. Members of the editorial board remember friends dropping courses after being excluded from class spaces. Others remember professors failing to make accommodations for religious observances, or offering inadequate support to students navigating disabilities. In some cases, these professors' un-inclusive reputations preceded them — students were warned by their peers not to register for certain courses in the first place. Issues of inclusivity can impede not only a student's ability to learn, but also a professor's ability to teach.

While these are losses, we believe they're avoidable ones. We've also had shining examples of what inclusive learning environments *do* look like — and these glimpses leave us excited about the IPP's broader vision. We've been in lecture halls when professors have publicly apologized for comments that left class members feeling marginalized, and took the time and effort to adjust their discourse moving forward. We've received new syllabi after teachers, learning from students that assigned articles struck the wrong note, reconsidered their reading lists. And we've known faculty members who have skillfully turned tense, potentially divisive discussions into teaching moments.



SARAH FAGAN

Class period after class period, these classrooms held robust and challenging conversations. The saliency and impact of these conversations make these classrooms the kind that convinced so many of us to come to Middlebury in the first place.

As far as we're concerned, every professor on campus stands to benefit from IPP workshops. We recognize the organizers' deliberate decision not to make the program mandatory — Wells told The Campus she had better experiences with opt-in programs than with mandatory ones. "You can't give someone a training that makes them not biased," she told our reporter earlier this fall. "It's a process of becoming critically more aware."

Still, we encourage any and all professors to attend. What's more, we want you to *want* to go, and we believe this to be a part of your responsibility as teachers. Just as doctors are expected to keep up with the latest medical terminology and procedures, so too should professors be made to brush up on any new vocabulary and strategies that allow them to perform their own pedagogical operations effectively. Students undertake their own anti-bias training in the form of JusTalks, which is far from all-encompassing but is certainly a good start.

We also urge you to take advantage of the wide variety of workshops available. Inclusivity can't be created through any one measure; it takes many different strategies for a diverse group of students to feel supported in the same, shared learning space.

We realize some members of the faculty aren't as excited about IPP as we are. As a result, most of the faculty have yet to sign up. We speculate that some professors see this training as unnecessary; others may even consider it part of a greater effort to encourage confining and cushy "PC culture" on campus. As your students, we're telling you it *is* necessary. And claims about PC culture overlook the fundamental nature of inclusivity — by opening up the floor to all students, inclusive classrooms expand conversations rather than contract them. Students are much more likely to share difficult or unpopular opinions in classrooms in which they are made to feel comfortable and intellectually welcomed. Cognitively receptive professors provide students with supportive spaces in which they can collectively tackle the tough issues. It's that simple.

Inclusivity also extends far beyond the classroom (even though that remains a great place to start). Semesters come and go, but many faculty and staff spend years working at the college. We believe the IPP can cultivate a more permanent culture of respect among *all* stakeholders in the Middlebury community, generating real progress that outlasts any one student's individual college career (or any one bad MiddCourses review).

To be clear: We don't expect you to attend every workshop offered this year. Instead, consider this a research project extended over the course of several semesters. When it comes to developing this kind of awareness, we students are learning too. But as the people standing at the front of the room, you occupy uniquely powerful positions from which you can set inclusive precedents and contribute to a culture of learning that reaches far beyond the confines of the classroom. We ask that you take advantage of it.

editorial

The editorial represents the opinions of The Middlebury Campus editorial board.

Exchange students need representation

Leaving behind your friends and family for a year is an immense decision, and when I touched down in Burlington after 30 hours of traveling, I couldn't help but feel that I had chosen wrong. I was jetlagged and overwhelmed, and to worsen matters, the only vending machine in the airport had run out of blue Gatorade. This seemed like foreshadowing. Had I made the wrong choice? Was yellow Gatorade better? More importantly, was postponing my life to spend a year abroad in a place where there are four cows to every one person the wrong decision? The answer was irrelevant, because there I was on a dark and empty bus, en route to a school I knew nothing about – my only friends the distant smell of manure seeping in through the open windows, and the same four Bryan Adams songs being blasted on repeat by the driver.

But I wasn't alone for long. From the second I arrived at Middlebury, the International Student and Scholar Services made a fantastic effort to link all the international students together. Friendships are easier to build when people understand one another, be that in terms of common languages, shared values or mutual interests. It quickly became obvious that Middlebury is home to a sprawling global community. The student body is a melting pot of different cultures and creeds, and this made the transition for exchange students like me ineffably easier.

This was a little over a month and a half ago, however, and although efforts to ease the initial transition for exchange students were successful, we were scarcely prepared for the academic intensity that would follow. Adjusting to Middlebury's working environment and its tight knit community is not easy. For many international students, the transition continues to be particularly tumultuous. As the work piles up and the homesickness builds, a dire institutional inadequacy becomes increasingly evident: Currently, exchange students lack any form of particularized representation or support within the SGA. This can and must be amended.

Middlebury, with all its quirks, is an overwhelming environment at the best of times. For everything from understanding the culture to just having someone to ask questions that seem far too simple to ask, exchange students are in need of someone to whom they can reach out. That someone should have both the knowledge to help, and the empathy to understand the difficulties of being an exchange student. The ultimate goal of all exchange students is to become bona fide members of this community of intelligent and eccentric individuals – and this immersion could be much easier if these students had consistent and accessible guidance.

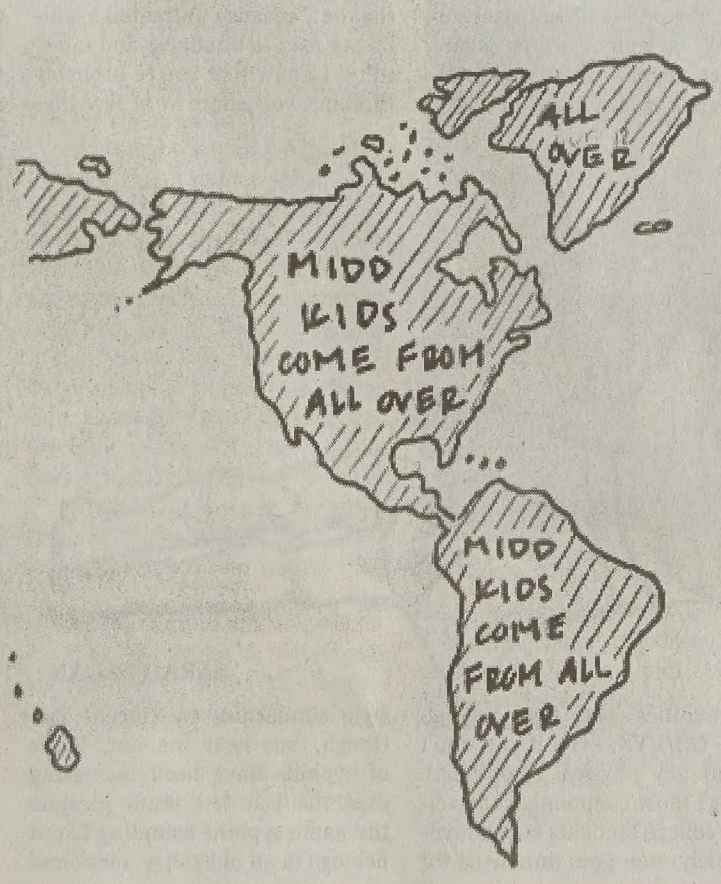
Such representation wouldn't just benefit exchange students. The inherent value of exchanges lies in our unique perspectives on global education. We come from Nottingham to East Anglia, SciencesPo to La Sorbonne, Potsdam to Freie Universität Berlin; our origins may be different, but our passion for learning – and our fidelity to the institutions that allow us to harness this passion – is certainly shared. Middlebury is our home for the year, and we want to be able to contribute to the chorus of student voices which seek nothing more than to ensure this college is serving its students to the best of its ability.

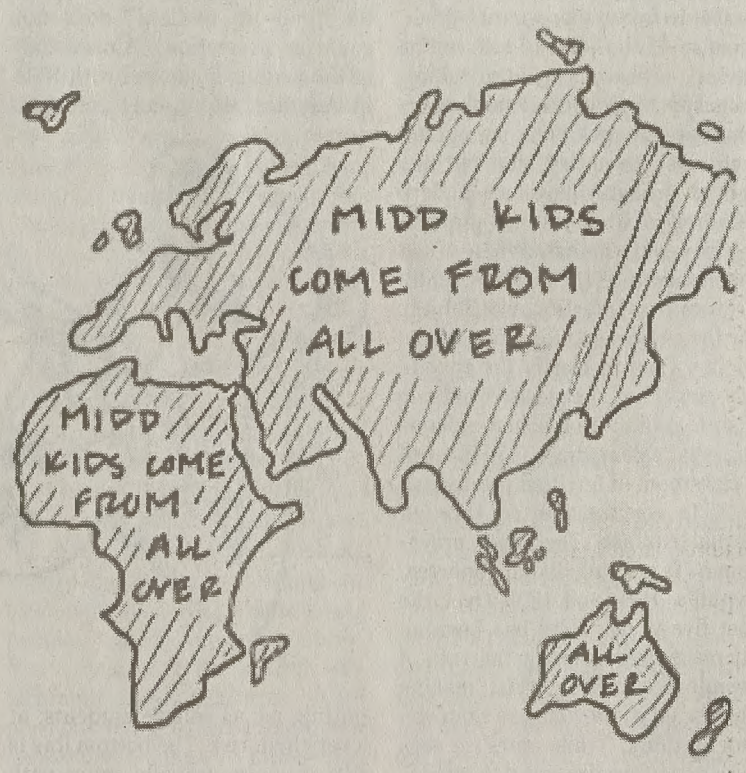
Attending this school is an honor, but many exchange students feel this lack of representation emphasizes the ephemerality of our time here. It's true; this cohort of exchange students is temporary, as the next will be, and as the last was – but there will always be exchange students. If we work now to establish a means of providing them with the support and guidance they'll need, we can be sure that future cohorts of exchanges will be better equipped to thrive at Middlebury.

This support doesn't necessarily translate to the inauguration of an exchange student senator. On the contrary, exchange students are a collective – united by our disparate cultural identities and our concern for each other's well-being and academic success. As such, we seek not to elect one individual, but to create an organization – one which harnesses all available resources to build a strong support structure that endures long beyond our time here. Inspired by a commitment to our future exchange brothers and sisters, a request to establish such an organization was submitted to the SAO on Oct. 14, 2019. While it is easy to admire Middlebury's global community, one is also obligated to recognize the difficulties associated with the borderless pursuit of human excellence. It is therefore our unequivocal responsibility to ensure that future generations of exchange students remain unabated in this virtuous pursuit.

op-ed

***Dan Golstein** is currently an exchange student at Middlebury.*





SARAH FAGAN

So what is the Board of Trustees, anyway?

SLG corner

This recurring column will feature updates from SLG. This week's column comes from ***President Laurie Patton.***

Greetings Middlebury! With this column, we are inaugurating the first "SLG Corner," a project cooked up between The Campus, Senior Leadership Group (SLG) and the Student Government Association (SGA).

Every couple of weeks, we will be writing to you about what is on the SLG's plate, the big issues we are thinking about and what we are hearing from the community.

As you might know, the Middlebury Board of Trustees meets this week from Thursday, Oct. 17 to Saturday, Oct. 19. We thought the best way to start this column was to share our thoughts as SLG and respond to some student-generated FAQs about the board. We hope they are helpful.

What is the Middlebury Board of Trustees?

The board is a group of volunteers who are responsible for the long-term well-being of Middlebury. They act as "fiduciaries" — people entrusted to ensure the financial health and good governance processes of the institution. Each trustee brings a mix of experience, talent, and resources to the table to ensure that this can happen.

What do the trustees do and what decisions does the board make?

Trustees are responsible for oversight, to make sure Middlebury is adhering to best practices in all of our offices. They are not responsible for the everyday management of Middlebury — that is SLG's job. They typically discuss financial health, approve budgets, approve larger financial decisions (usually over $1 million), discuss overall financial, logistical and educational strategies for the future, vote on tuition costs (determined in collaboration with SLG), assess risks and opportunities that the institution should pay attention to, give final approval of tenure decisions, discuss new initiatives, review the progress of established programs, and review any legal issues that emerge. At every meeting, the board also connects formally and informally with students, staff, and faculty to discuss ongoing life on campus. All the ways that students can connect with the board are listed below.

Who is on the board? How are members chosen?

You can find the members of the board at go/trustees. Board members are chosen through a long-term selection process by a sub-committee of the board, called "The Trusteeship and Governance Committee," or T&G for short. We start thinking about candidates several years in advance, and we have several people from the board meet with potential candidates to find out if they have time, talent and interest to serve. Our criteria: first and foremost, a commitment and record of service to Middlebury; a capacity to understand higher education and help find ways to address the biggest challenges facing Middlebury today; an ability to talk collegially across difference; and a sense of long-term strategic vision for our community.

We try to develop a board from a wide variety of sectors. Our current board has representatives from education, finance, law, public service, architecture, technology, industry, medicine, entrepreneurship and the arts. Currently, there are 15 women and 17 men on the board. Seven are people of color. Two live outside the U.S.

We also have emeriti trustees. These are elected trustees who have contributed long-term service to the board. They often come to meetings but do not have a vote. They serve as advisors for Middlebury.

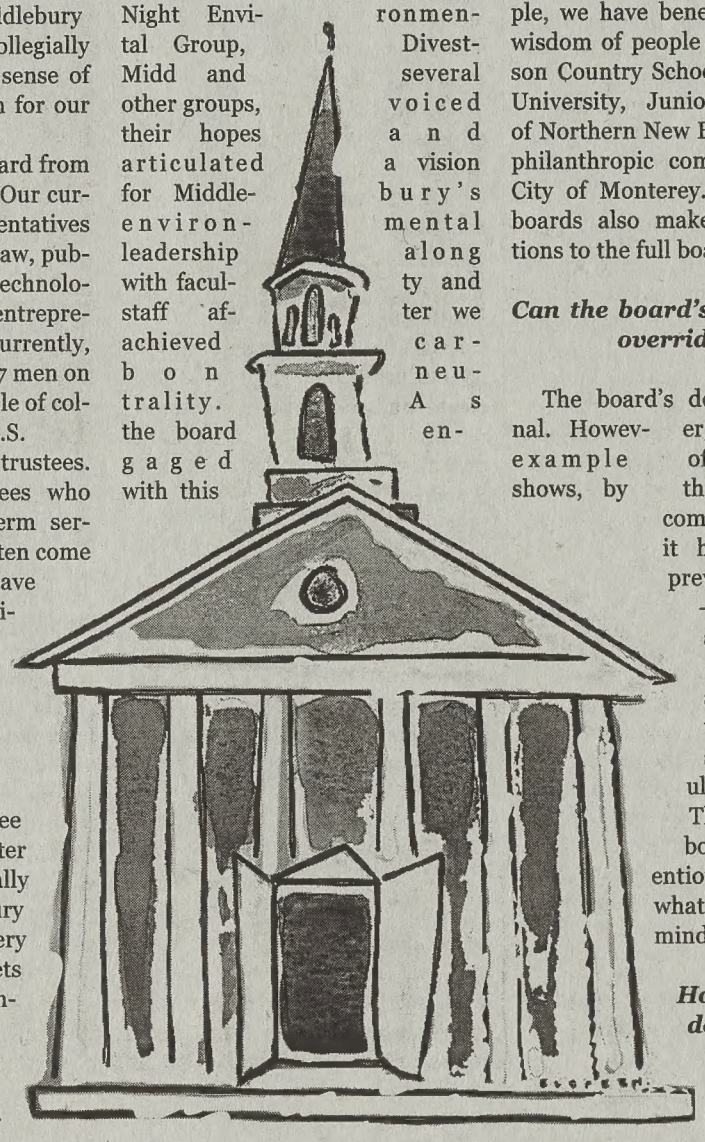
How often do board members convene?

Trustees meet three times a year, in fall, winter and spring. They usually meet on the Middlebury College campus, but every other year they also meets once on the Institute campus. In fall, the board has a retreat, and in winter, the board has a "professional development" session, during which it explores relevant issues in higher education. Examples of past retreat topics have been strategic planning, which contributed to Envisioning Middlebury; financial aid; and the admissions process.

What is the board structure for decision-making and how do trustees come to consensus?

The board does its work mostly through its committees. The strategy committee makes recommendations on how to plan for key issues of our day and create smart decisions for Middlebury's future. The resources committee makes budgetary recommendations and ensures that we have the funds to keep Middlebury functioning at the highest level possible. The risk committee looks at both areas of vulnerability for our institution, such as cybersecurity, and ways to mitigate those risks. It also look at opportunities for growth, such as the Green Mountain Higher Education Consortium. The programs committee works with SLG to identify key opportunities for programmatic growth at Middlebury. It should be noted here that the Middlebury faculty are the primary authority for curricular decisions.

Over the past several years, individual board committees worked together on environmental leadership initiatives like Energy2028. Middlebury students, through the Environmental Council, Sunday Night Environmental Group, Divest Midd and other groups, have voiced their hopes and articulated a vision for Middlebury's environmental leadership along with faculty and staff alike. After we achieved carbon neutrality, the board engaged with this community of concerned leaders, the outlines of Energy2028 emerged and were refined through work with the strategy committee. The resources committee did a deeper dive on what it would take to finance the various parts of Energy 2028's initiatives; The programs committee initially discussed our plans for environmental leadership and reviewed the proposals for Energy 2028 over several meetings; The programs and resources committees then made a joint recommendation to the larger board of trustees to adopt the plan. We anticipate that as we implement Energy 2028, the risk committee will monitor our work to identify any institutional vulnerabilities or opportunities. Throughout the three-year process, the various individual committees met regularly with students, faculty, and staff. It was exhilarating and thorough work.



ELLIE EBERLEE

There are also smaller boards that provide oversight for the different units at Middlebury. There is a smaller board for the college, the various schools (Bread Loaf, the Language Schools, and the Schools Abroad), and the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey. Trustees also serve on those smaller boards, alongside faculty, staff and student members of the Middlebury community.

Smaller boards also include members from outside the community, such as representatives from other institutions. For example, we have benefitted from the wisdom of people from the Addison Country School District, Yale University, Junior Achievement of Northern New England and the philanthropic community in the City of Monterey. These smaller boards also make recommendations to the full board of trustees.

Can the board's decisions be overridden?

The board's decisions are final. However, as the above example of Energy 2028 shows, by the time the board comes to a decision, it has held many previous meetings — usually several years' worth of discussions and consultations with SLG, students, faculty and staff. The Middlebury board is conscientious and listens to what is on people's minds.

How can students communicate with trustees?

Students can connect in four different ways. First, student representatives serve on the boards of the College, the Schools and the Institute, and the investment sub-committee of the resources committee. Second, students talk with trustees informally throughout the course of the meeting, when they attend lunches and dinners hosted by the board. Third, student groups always participate in the programming throughout the weekend. In spring 2019, for example, students from the "How We Live Together" project shared their thoughts with the board; students from DivestMidd gave their perspectives in fall 2018 as the board voted on divestment; students from residential life participated in the fall 2018 retreat, which led to the new student center becoming a priority in planning. Fourth, if students would like trustees to consider particular issues, they should contact the Associate Secretary to the Board Sue Ritter, who will work with students to share their thoughts through the right channels.

What are the top three things about the board of trustees that you would most like to communicate?

First, even though some of their work has to be confidential, trustees really want to connect. They are constantly looking for more ways to engage with folks on campus. Second, we sometimes hear that students worry that the board is mostly wealthy people who only care about the past, or about money. That is not the case. As the description of board members above shows, it is a diverse group from a wide variety of sectors, representing a wide variety of opinions. They disagree well. And they love Middlebury (a large majority of them were once MiddKids). Third, I trust the trustees completely; they always challenge me and the senior leadership team. They ask us tough questions (that's their job), and make us better: "Can we really reach the goal we've set with the tools we've got?" "Are we fully prepared for the next economic downturn?" "What is the true cost of a specific part of our educational vision?" They also encourage me and my team to ask them tough questions, too, and we have. In this "strong challenge and strong support" environment, our partnership makes us stronger.

What is on the docket for this week?

We are excited about this meeting. We will focus this year on the faculty-student relationship. At the board retreat, we will hear from several groups of faculty and students whose work together in research, entrepreneurship, and community service has been transformative for all people involved. Trustees will give us feedback on how we can support this kind of collaborative learning even more energetically.

In addition, trustees will hear an update on the progress we are making in the "How We Live Together" initiative. They will also learn about and give us feedback on our new long-term building projects, such as the student center. We will plan for the next steps in our upcoming capital campaign — a long-term fundraising initiative that helps us support our vision for the future. We will also discuss patterns in enrollment at our graduate schools. On Friday night, students from the Environmental Council and the Sustainability Solutions Lab will share their research. It is going to be packed and we are looking forward to reporting back.

Thanks for these questions. And thanks to our representatives from the SGA and The Campus for getting us started.

— President Laurie Patton

Starting a conversation about STIs

sex panther

Sex Panther *writes on all things sex, love and hookup-related at Middlebury.*

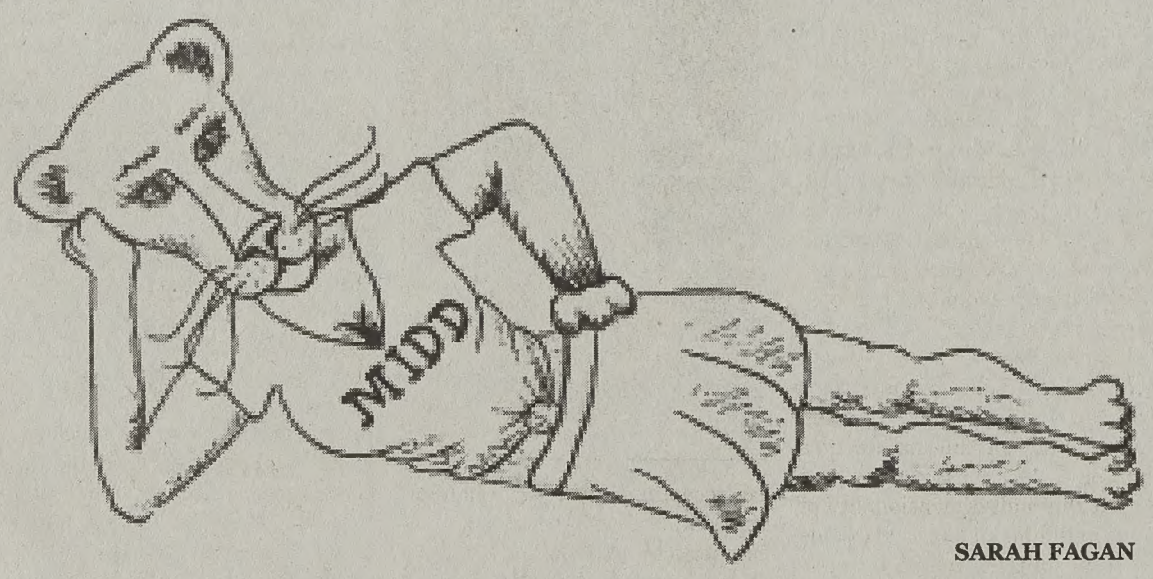
This week's column is the first installment in a multi-part series on STIs.

Gather around the fall leaf-fueled campfire; let's talk about STIs. I'll start by saying that you should not be having unprotected sex, unless you're certain that your partner doesn't have an STI, that you don't have an STI and that you're unable to become pregnant (either because of the kind of sex you're having, or because you're taking a backup birth control method to avoid pregnancy). Sure, using protection is a great first step, but you should probably have an understanding of what you are protecting yourself against. When I use the acronym STI, I mean Sexually Transmitted Infection, not Subject To Inspection or Star Trek Insurrection (just to clarify for anyone who never had the pleasure of their eighth grade P.E. teacher explaining what chlamydia was in front of a classroom of terrified pre-teens).

STIs are transmitted through sexual contact. The most prevalent STIs are chlamydia, gonorrea, syphilis, HPV and HIV. Over the last five years, there has been an increase every year in the rate of people contracting STIs, making them a lot more common than you might think. While rates of teen pregnancy are dropping (hurrah!), rates of STIs are rising (oh no!).

By no means are we immune to STIs within the Middlebury bubble. It is estimated that one in four college students will contract an STI. Now, you may think that you're one of the 3 who won't get an STI — and by no means am I implying that you're just a statistic — but there is definitely a much higher chance that you will get an STI than you should be comfortable with, especially if you're having unprotected sex (and no, the "pull-out method" does not count as protection). Almost half of the people diagnosed with STIs in America are 15–24 year olds, putting us, as college students, at a very high risk. The bottom line is that if you're sexually active with multiple partners (or heck, even one regular partner) you should get tested regularly.

Often, the symptoms of STIs don't present themselves. For instance, the only physical symptom of HPV is genital warts (again, super common — you should definitely get a pap smear to check for abnormalities next time you go to the OB/GYN, even if you don't present any physical symptoms). The STI most commonly contracted by college students is chlamydia, which often goes unnoticed for long periods of time (if and when you experience symptoms, they include burning sensation while urinating, abnormal discharge or itching rash).



SARAH FAGAN

You can't tell who has an STI just by looking with the naked eye. Did you know that Vincent Van Gough lived with untreated syphilis? I sincerely hope that you don't want to go the way that Gough did (ha, ha), because untreated syphilis can lead to blindness and infertility. I know that you're probably thinking you share very few life-style similarities to Vincent Van Gough, but hear me out. Rates of syphilis have been increasing over the last few years (despite the name syphilis sounding like it belongs in an old-timey, black and white movie). The symptoms for the first stage of syphilis include chancres on your genitalia, which are easily mistakable for pimples. The sores are super contagious, so if you're concerned, get tested immediately.

The good news about STIs (at least for the bacterial ones like syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia) is that they're curable by antibiotics if caught early. The even better news is that you can get tested for free at Parton — without any need for insurance, or parents finding out! You can get a prescription for birth control from Parton, too (and you can get it delivered to Parton, instead of the pharmacy), as well as a prescription for an HIV prevention drug like PrEP or Truvada.

You can get tested for free at the Planned Parenthood in Middlebury. Any kind of surgical birth control (such an implant or IUD) is available there too.

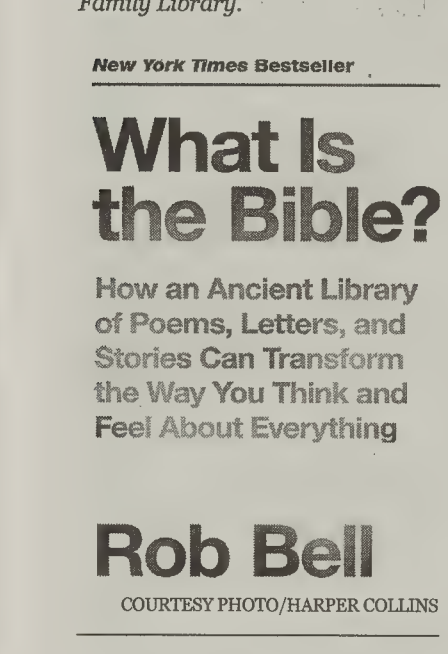
Yes, the idea of getting an STI is scary, but there are resources and information available to you. So the next time your partner tries to dissuade you from using protection because it doesn't feel good, kindly remind them that neither do STIs.

If you want to be having responsible and informed, unprotected sex, start by getting tested — and stay tuned for part two of this series on STIs.

The Librarian Is In

By KATRINA SPENCER
Guest Columnist

Katrina Spencer is a Literatures & Cultures Librarian in the Davis Family Library.


New York Times Bestseller
What Is the Bible?
How an Ancient Library of Poems, Letters, and Stories Can Transform the Way You Think and Feel About Everything
Rob Bell

COURTESY PHOTO/HARPER COLLINS

Mediocre. Self-indulgent. Willfully evasive.

I was very excited when I initially paged through this book and eyed the story of "The Good Samaritan." Do you know it? It tells the story of a man who is robbed, beaten and left for dead. And his perceived "enemy" shows him mercy. The author of this work, "What is the Bible?," Rob Bell, attempted to provide a greater sociocultural context for the animosity between two biblical, neighboring groups and why their contact and a demonstration of mercy would be so unthinkable in Jesus' time. I was moved.

So when I saw that the Green Mountain Library Consortium (go/gmlc/) owned the work as an audiobook, I was pretty pleased. The Davis Family Library, by the way, owns the print copy. It was on the recording, read by the author, that I learned that Rob Bell is/was a pastor. Amazon revealed that he is the author of over 10 books. He claimed to have no particular evangelizing mission to forward with this publication, but I remain unconvinced. Overall, I found the work to be a weakly cited collection of his impressions of rather randomly selected passages of the Bible — a broadly popular approach I've seen towards engagement with scripture from the pulpit across the United States (all shade intended). Let me be clear: the work is accessible and highly readable. Sometimes it's interesting as it offers newish deductions from biblical stories. But it's also wildly unthorough, paltry in its feminism and not infrequently self-indulgent. It's "cute;" it's popular; it's certainly not academic.

I think this is part of the reason I stopped attending church: because the presentation of scripture needed to fit the audience's tastes and what it wanted to hear. And it held little regard for what needed to be heard in our capitalistic, misogynistic, racist patriarchy. Yes, I said it. The messages in the church needed to coincide with the holidays of the year and the sales at department stores. It needed to be palatable and appetizing even when it wasn't spiritually nutritious. Rob Bell's book keeps a passive audience in mind and pushes only to the limit of comfort. In that respect, it's lazy. Or maybe... I'm just not the right audience.

Here are some things the book asserts that I'm way into and deeply for:

- The Bible is an edited text, compiled and recompiled over centuries.
- The Bible should be read with a vision for the sociocultural context from which it sprang
- Sometimes the interpreted meaning of biblical stories supersedes their credibility.
- The Bible is a library: a compilation of genealogies, laws, oral traditions, letters and more.
- Religious mythologies can be inspired and incited by the anxieties — political, agricultural, socioeconomic, et al — of the people writing them.

Cool.

Here's what I'm not into, that the book suggests:

- It is not necessary to provide a timeline for The Bible's evolution, tracing texts that have been suppressed and excluded or to mention what entities sliced, diced and appended the Bible(s) over time.
- Citing sources is an unnecessary and inconvenient hassle in forwarding one's beliefs
- Being thorough is overrated.
- Excluding major and minor characters and significant plot points from biblical narratives are subject to the author's whims:
  - E.g. Sara, Ruth, Esther, Vashti and other women of the Old Testament are easily ignored.
  - There's no point in exploring the incest that appears in the [collection of] book[s].
  - There's no point in meaningfully engaging the rich tradition of songs and praise in Psalms.
  - There's no point in spending time talking about wisdom literature like Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Job.
- As a white man who has founded a "successful" church, the author automatically has the authority to impose his viewpoints on others.

Bell assumes his readers do not care to engage with actual studies of the Bible but prefer a charismatic white man to parse out small doses and selected spoonfuls. And he's not wrong! This compilation of thoughts will make this man millions of dollars. He's a good performer and the Christianity he practices has been very profitable. But for a more balanced and less excessively confident work, see Peter Enns' "How The Bible Actually Works: In Which I Explain How An Ancient, Ambiguous, and Diverse Book Leads Us to Wisdom Rather Than Answers — and Why That's Great News."

Heath Quartet stuns during class visits, performances

By JOHN VAALER
Senior Writer

At the intermission of the Heath Quartet's concert on the night of Friday, Oct. 11, I was chatting with my friend Henry Ganey '22 outside the Mahaney Arts Center's Robison Hall, and mentioned a certain Shakespeare phrase.

"'If music be the food of love, play on,'" I said, quoting the opening lines of "Twelfth Night."

Ganey's eyes lit up. "I would say that the standing ovation at the end of [Ludwig van Beethoven's Quartet no. 8 in E. Minor] would be the quintessential example of the aforementioned quote," he said.

He was not exaggerating. Despite the unspoken rule that an audience can give a standing ovation only after a program's end, the crowd went bananas at the end of the British ensemble's first act.

Throughout the last week, the Heath Quartet — comprised of violist Gary Pomerory, cellist Christopher Murray and violinists Oliver Heath and Sara Wolstenholme — performed three times for students on Saturday, Oct. 5, Tuesday, Oct. 8 and Friday, Oct. 11. They also cotaught three classes: two music theory courses with Christian A. Johnson Professor Emeritus of Music Peter Hamlin and Professor of Music Larry Hamberlin, and "Sensation and Perception," a neuroscience course taught by Assistant Professor of Psychology Mike Dash.

Allison Carole Coyne, Performing Arts Series Director, sent an engagement survey about the Quartet's visit to all students in the above classes, and the responses were glowing. "Thus far 100% of student responders have said ;the quartet's visit was relevant to their coursewor'" and that they'd ;highly recommend such visits to their professors in the future,'" Coyne said.

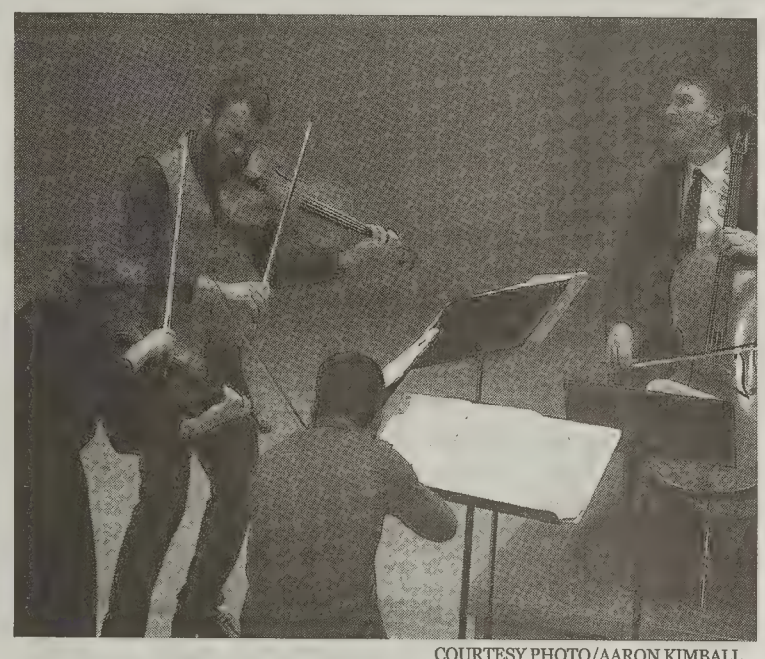
The first class I attended to see the Heath Quartet teach was Introduction to Music with Hamberlin. One student asked the musicians why they only play works by other composers as opposed to writing their own music. Heath Quartet Cellist Murray compared the group to "a traveling theater troupe," suggesting that a cellist who interprets the music of Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) is similar to an actor personalizing a role. The foundations of the work stay the same, but the performer brings a unique understanding of the piece to make good art.

At the lecture for students studying sensation and perception, the quartet's playing invoked conversations about the scientific nuts-and-bolts of classical music.

Murray told the class that being a cellist has its cerebral quirks. "As a musician, you have this little monkey inside of you that's doing music all the time," Murray said, smiling. "This little guy is always working out stuff."

When asked about their vigorous movements while playing, violinist Wolstenholme referred to the importance of visual elements to a performance. , After jokingly pantomiming a violent wave of her bow, she explained that the group also uses more subtle body language such as eye contact to communicate with each other on stage.

"How much of our auditory experience is visual?" Psychology Professor Dash asked. This question prompted a neuroscience experiment. Dash asked Heath and Wolstenholme, the Quartet's violinists, to stand apart on Robison Hall's stage and play some Beethoven. While the violinists fiddled away, I heard the instruments more individually. But seeing the musicians spread apart so far made it harder for me to concentrate on their music. My sensory experience was vexing; I wanted to see these musical Avengers assemble.



COURTESY PHOTO/AARON KIMBALL

Heath Quartet members performed some of Beethoven's classics during their performance at Robison Hall.

The four musicians also examined more contemporary classical music. They showed Dash's class "Memento," a string quartet by the Scottish composer James Macmillan. Murray's cello dominated the song — you could almost hear the misty peacefulness of the Highlands as his cello strummed a dissonant, airy theme.

The Heath Quartet's classes were thought-provoking, but their concerts stole the show. The group's performance on the night of Saturday, Oct. 5 was quite good, and from what I've gleaned from an audio recording, the matinée on the following Tuesday was just as lovely.

> *"As a musician, you have this little monkey inside of you that's doing music all the time. This little guy is always working out stuff."*
>
> *Christopher Murray*

But the Heath Quartet saved their best night for last. At their final performance , they delivered Beethoven string quartets like nobody's business.

Heath's team began with Beethoven's Quartet no. 2 in G Major, op. 18, no. 2 (1799). The opening theme was done gently — the violins scillianted back and forth in bright scales. The two instruments sang to each other, as if courting.

Of particular interest during Quartet no. 2 was Murray's cello playing. While other Heath members looked at their music with intense concentration as they strummed their solos. Murray gazed up at the ceiling during his, smiling serenely. His playing had a similar quality. It was reminiscent of the elegant cello parts in the "Swan" movement of Camille Saint-Saën's "Carnival of the Animals." Murray's calm playing guided the rest of the ensemble through this charming reverie of a piece.

Next up on the program was Beethoven's Quartet no. 8 in E Minor, op. 59 no. 2 (1808). During the piece, Pomeroy's viola parts accentuated harmonic counterpoint. It is not often that one gets to fully hear a violist, but Pomeroy's subtle playing kept the the quartet grounded in the melancholy key of E Minor.

The final movement showcased Oliver Heath's virtuosity. Great violin music is never a given — some violinists have a habit of caterwauling during crescendos. Thankfully, Heath stayed away from such theatrics, subtly guiding the music with uncannily fitting dynamics. It was easy to see after the "Presto" movement why the Heath Quartet begins with "Heath." The quartet's end was absolute dynamite.

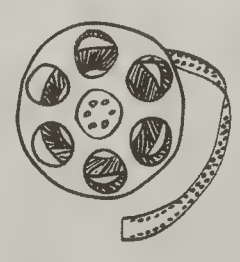
The highlight of the evening was Quartet no. 15 in A Minor, op 132 (1823-1825). The quartet is late-period Beethoven; it lacks Hayden-esque time schemes or grace notes. Quartet no. 15, rather, is a Romantic vision of grace and majesty. The performance's best music was during the "Molto adagio" third movement. The four musicians played the same notes for the first few minutes. The instruments' synchronization yielded a natural ambience; harkening white waves splashing onto a beach or a horse walking through a field. Suddenly, the movement became a heart-stopping aria.

The quartet's third movement shocked Madison Middleton '22.5. "During that movement, I... I thought, 'This is changing me...'" she said.

The Heath Quartet triumphed during their week at the college, and I look forward to the continuation of their residency next January and May. As I left the Mahaney Center last Friday, a thought occurred to me. For many Americans, 2020 means another grueling election cycle, an uncertain beginning to a new decade. For all we know, the 2020s could get more hectic than the 1920s.

But life, sometimes, is really quite good. I am grateful that my New Year beckons the Heath Quartet's return from across the Atlantic, eleven other Beethoven string quartets, and more enchanting music at Robison Hall.

Reel Critic: Parasite



By NINA NG
Contributing Writer

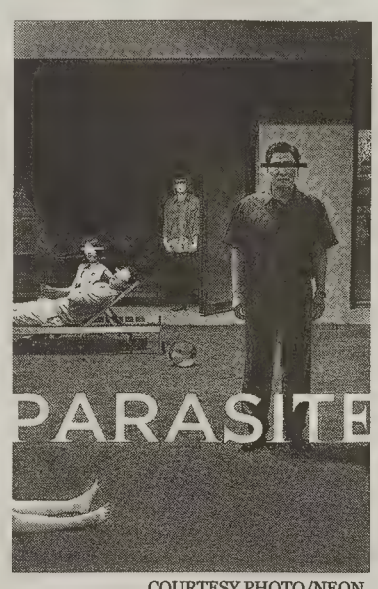
The modern thriller has evolved.

This isn't to reject the conventions or classics of the genre — in every aspect, "Parasite" belongs under the umbrella of a thriller. The film is interspersed with ominous noises and things that go bump in the dark; it is a sinister tale of inter-familial ties. And yet, there's something far beneath the surface that makes the viewing experience all the more harrowing.

Middlebury's Hirschfield Film Series brought "Parasite" by director Bong Joon-Ho to campus last Saturday, Oct. 12. At first glance, the movie is centered around two families at opposite ends of the social ladder in South Korea. Situated at their comfortable, upper-class post of affluence are the Parks; in contrast, the Kims struggle to scrape by. Life almost seems too peachy when a talisman bequeathed unto the Kim family ushers in a new dawn of potential wealth as Kim Ki-Woo finds work as a tutor for Park Da-Hye. One by one, members of the Kim family deceive the Parks into hiring them, pooling together more salaries in hopes of making their way up the social ladder.

The film opens up with a shot of the Kims in their cramped underground home. The internet connection is limited — Ki-Woo waves his phone around in desperation, moving his arm from side to side, knuckles grazing the ceiling. It's almost humorous — after all, we've all had problems with reception. Comedic moments reappear throughout the film as we witness a forgery take place through a quirky brother-sister dynamic, traverse teenage jealousies, and laugh at the gullible nature of a mother.

But the multidimensionality of Bong's filmmaking is what gets viewers going. From the beginning, the audience feels connected to the Kims. Their poverty draws sympathy as they're desperate for a way out. Most can understand the simple frustration of cellular reception; most can relate to the simple teenage lovesick drama between Ki-Woo and Da-Hye. It is the simple details that make watching "Parasite" such a rollercoaster as a seemingly normal household dynamic turns rancid. In the midst of wholesome familiarity and relatability, the onset of negativity looms over — slowly, and then all at once.



COURTESY PHOTO/NEON

The film weaves together as Kim Ki-Taek descends into madness through the gradual accumulation of self-deprecation and envy. Song Kang-Ho renders his character incredibly well as he begins to stray from his initial stability, catching viewers by surprise as chaos mirrors chaos in a final climax. Family members are torn apart and the structure is broken — yet the symbiosis between the rich and poor still manages to persist as they are trapped within routine by the end.

Without betraying the plot, it can be said that "Parasite" comes full circle, revealing the shocking, absurd and ugly nature behind the class system through showcasing people at their most vulnerable. From displaying the shallow detachment and haughtiness of upper-class living to narrating dehumanized existences of lower-class individuals in their vicinity, disparity is critically depicted in a portrait of class antagonism.

When one thinks of a thriller, an iconic film like Hitchcock's "Psycho" might come to mind. Indeed, classic thriller aspects f can still be felt in the unsettling atmospheres and discordant notes of "Parasite." But the film holds a deeper analysis of society, which in contrast to the horror genre amplifies a terrifying feeling of unpredictability.. Every decision is volatile. Bong expertly maneuvers the pacing of the scenes as the plot thickens, building upon itself as we are left trying to predict events to no avail. It is this same ambiguity that makes "Parasite" special.

Chilling to the core but tugging at your heartstrings in its portrayal of working class families, "Parasite" redefines its own genre in a jumble of cinematographic beauty, cold-sweat-inducing eeriness and meticulous, relatable detail. Walking out of the film, perhaps viewers will be left with more questions than answers a feeling that only a good mystery can incite.

Up Close with Economics Professor Martin Abel

By KATELYN MEI
Contributing Writer

When should you get your first dog? When's the right time to get married? And what on Earth should you major in? The study of economics can address all of these questions, according to Assistant Professor of Economics Martin Abel.

"In the study of economics, we think a lot about incentives and constraints: What's the optimal choice and behavior given the constraints? You can apply this to all types of questions," said Abel, who has been at Middlebury College since completing his Ph.D. at Harvard University in 2017.

Growing up on a farm in a poor working class family, Abel was one of eight siblings. As a child, he was surrounded by a negative perception of academics, often hearing that his academic pursuits were impractical and unrealistic. Despite these criticisms, however, he became a first-generation college student and received a Ph.D. from one of the most prestigious universities in the world.

Abel's passion for economics is grounded in the discipline's rigorous and mathematical-centered approach to analyzing problems.

"The approach of modeling individual behavior that can be applied to different contexts in combination with empirical methods is what I find very intriguing about economics," he said.

His research about gender discrimination in the workforce was recently cited in the article, "Why are workers more resentful of criticism when the boss is a woman?" in Quartz, a leading digital publication that focuses on business and the economy. Abel's research, which applies an economics approach, demonstrates that both female and male workers may respond more negatively to criticism from female managers than to those from male managers.

MAX PADILLA / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Abel has worked with the Saudi Arabian and South African governments to improve job opportunities for women and young people.

Simultaneously, Abel's research takes the psychological perspective into account. He found that criticism from female managers can come as more of a surprise, because female managers are generally associated with praise instead of criticism. Abel wrote in his paper, titled "Do Workers Discriminate against Female Bosses?" that, "while there are no differences in gendered expectations for praise across worker gender, the association of criticism with male managers is larger among male workers, especially with regard to having strict standards."

Some of the motivation behind this research topic is personal.

"I have two young daughters," Abel said with a smile. "While everyone should care about gender equality, I now think more about these issues and what kind of world my daughters grow up in."

Advice for students considering economics

Abel recommended that students consider what type of academic approach is more appealing and intuitive to them when solving problems. Since every discipline has a distinguished methodology, understanding the approach economists take is critical for a student who might be interested in entering the field; Economists in particular, he said, model behaviors mathematically to elucidate general lessons instead of focusing on the nuances around individual behaviors, like in other social sciences.

For example, in cases of discrimination, the methodology of sociology and anthropology often involves examining data in depth through qualitative work, spending time observing people and looking at individual cases. General lessons are then drawn out through analysis of these complex data.

"In economics, we tend to look for and collect more aggregate data, which we think helps to learn more general insights," Abel said. "But it might capture fewer nuances and should thus be seen as complementary to other disciplines like anthropology."

When asked about his advice for students who are trying to figure out their paths, Abel encouraged, "Try to think about what you enjoy reading, what excites you."

These are often indicators of our greater interests, Abel said. Furthermore, if students want to do research, which requires a great amount of reading, interest in the topic is helpful for work in the long run.

Before you sign that major declaration form

"Look beyond the core courses into the higher-level classes," Abel said, suggesting that students sometimes form the wrong impressions of the Economics Department when they start with core courses like Statistics or Intro Microeconomics. However, most of these classes provide the tools for analyzing problems in the upper-level classes that truly reflect what the study of economics is.

Middlebury's Economics Department also offers courses studying social issues, like Economics of Discrimination, Environmental Economics, and Inequality and Injustice — all of which will be offered in the upcoming spring semester.

Previously, many economics models relied on mathematical evaluations to predict individual behavior. By incorporating insights from psychology, behavioral economics demonstrates that people do not always make decisions based on what is rational, but are instead often influenced by emotions and innate bias. Expanding upon previous economic models that rely only on mathematical evaluations, this field opens up opportunities to study problems — and ourselves — more comprehensively than ever before.

Reel Critic: 'Big Mouth' Season 3

By OWEN MASON-HILL
Senior Columnist

Puberty is a time of self-discovery; a trial-and-error process that requires constant failure in order to understand oneself. There is no show quite like "Big Mouth." it is singular in its honest and uninhibited approach to this subject matter. Many shows have tried — some in vain — to capture the essence of the turbulent time that is puberty, when young adults are blossoming ungracefully into adulthood. Yet "Big Mouth" seems unique in its ability to look past the tawdry jokes that come readily to creators of puberty-focused shows and reminds audiences of a time when the world possessed far more questions than answers.

In "Big Mouth" Season 3, show creators expand the already wide scope of the story to discuss questions not only about puberty, but also questions of societal importance.

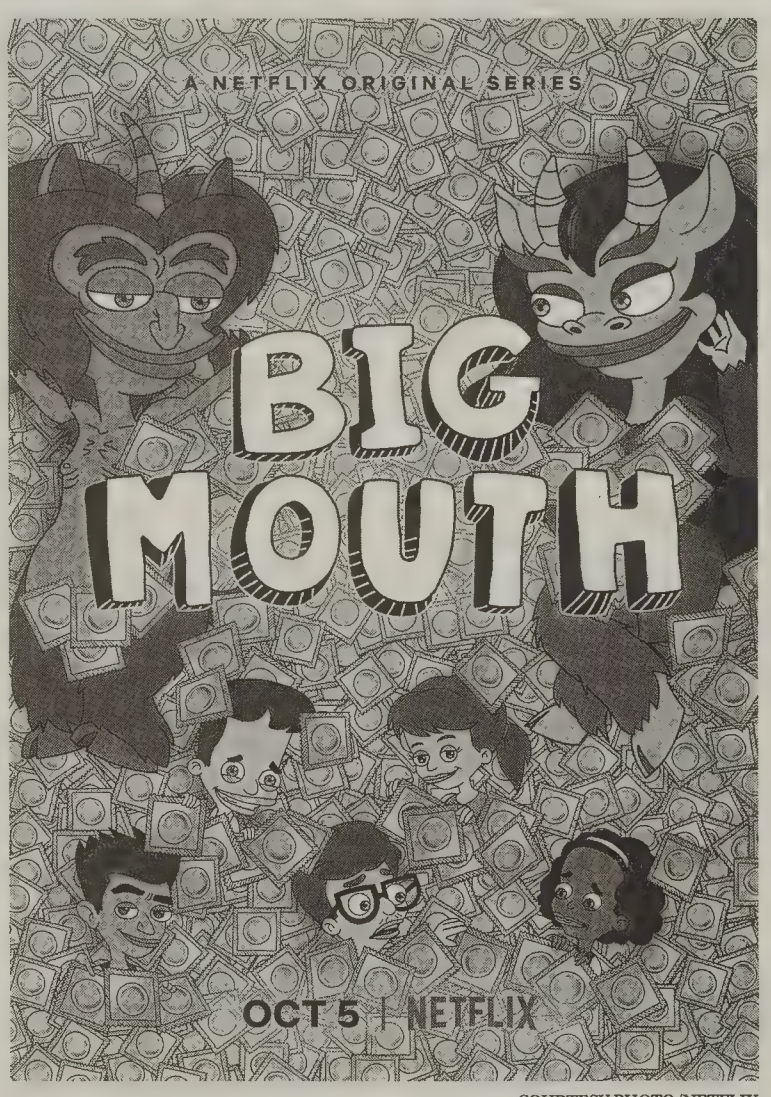
After an early released episode for Valentine's Day, "Big Mouth" immediately confronts sexist tendencies through the harsh and unfair implementation of a school dress code. The boys of the school are in an uncontrollable animalistic frenzy, brought on by what they claim is the girls' loose and revealing clothing. Andrew Glouberman (John Mulaney), one of the show's foremost pubescent characters, says "I do feel out of control all the time and I'm going to use that as an excuse for my actions." This dress-code is soon fought by the girls marching through the school always in what they call a "slut-walk," yet in doing so they shame a girl for wearing her normal clothing, in contrast to their own provocative outfits. In scenarios like this, the show applies abstract issues in society to everyday interactions, allowing the voices of the characters to speak for the masses. In doing so, "Big Mouth" is able to provide some insight into many of the problems troubling the way in which society treats its members.

This is where the brilliance of "Big Mouth" lies; it is distinct in its capacity to tackle the toughest of modern problems with subtlety, adding notes of comedy throughout to engross its viewers. The topics range from gender misconceptions, helping Jay (played by Middlebury's own Jason Mantzoukas '95) discover his sexual identity through song, to the difficult intricacies that surround sexual harassment through the inappropriate relationship between Lola (Nick Kroll) and her theater director Mr. Lizer (Rob Huebel).

With the inconsistent, and sometimes unhelpful, aid of their hormone monsters, "Big Mouth's" characters fumble on their way towards self-realization. Characters are allowed to make mistakes; they fight, steal kisses, argue, crash cars and hurt each other in trying to discover who they are to be. By walking in the wrong direction they find the right path. Nothing is off the table for "Big Mouth" and because of it, the show finds its honesty in the strangest of circumstances. Andrew is constantly trying to understand and combat his budding sexuality. At times his sexual interest is directed towards his friend Missy (Jenny Slate) or Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson and at other times towards his own cousin; there seems to be no end to the difficulty in finding what truly makes us tick.

"Big Mouth" doesn't shy away from presenting images of both cartoon male and female genitalia, as the characters strive to understand not only their own bodies, but also themselves in relation to those around them. It aims to be an inclusive show, with main characters including straight, gay, black, white people and a "bisexual cisgendered polyamorous magician."

"Big Mouth" is, in its essence, a show about identity, of discovering oneself within the tumultuous and hormone-fueled time of burgeoning adolescence. The show reveals that failure is a necessary evil on the path to truth. Its characters fail. They fail to be good friends. They fail to be good children. They fail to be good students. But they do not fail to be good people, because the road to self-discovery requires this failure and they are all the better for it. It is often easy in our maturity to forget just how treacherous the road to this place was, but "Big Mouth" places us right back in our youths and questions the strength of our own self-understanding.



COURTESY PHOTO/NETFLIX

DON'T MISS THIS

I WAS NEVER ALONE: Disability Studies and Performance Ethnography

What is it like to live with a disability in Russia? What happens when an ethnographer sets out to write a play based on the stories of fieldwork participants? I WAS NEVER ALONE is an ethnographic play about the experiences of people with mobility and speech impairments in contemporary Russia.

Thursday 10/17, 12:15 p.m., Dana Auditorium

Precolonial African Sexuality, Contemporary Homophobia and #LimitlessAfricans

Fulbright-winning artist Mikael Chukwuma Owunna discusses how Limit(less), his series of photographic portraits of LGBTQ+ Africans in diaspora, uses celebratory imagery to challenge a colonial legacy of homophobia. Meet the artist at a reception following this illustrated lecture.

Thursday 10/17, 7 p.m. Mahaney Arts Center Dance Theatre

Carol Rifelj Faculty Lecture: Linus Owens

Halloween is increasingly an adult holiday, but at the same time traditional meanings of adulthood are disappearing. This talk uses Halloween as a lens to study new forms of emerging adulthood, placing these developments in economic and cultural contexts.

Wednesday 10/23 4:30 p.m., Franklin Environmental Center, The Orchard-Hillcrest 103

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Center for Community Engagement

Drive for the Language in Motion Mini-MAlt trip

Time: Sunday, Oct. 20-Tuesday, Oct.22

We need a driver for the Language in Motion Mini-MAlt trip over fall break! You will travel with the group to Barre, Vermont – leaving Sunday afternoon (10/20) and returning Tuesday evening (10/22). Approximately 20 work hours over these three days. Van license not required – just a standard Middlebury license. And safe, responsible driving skills. Contact Kristen Mullins at kmullins@middlebury.edu if you are interested.

Andean Alliance for Sustainable Development JTerm Internship Info Session

Time: Wednesday, Oct. 23, 7-8pm
Location: CCI

The Andean Alliance for Sustainable Development will investigate the perceptions and realities of indigenous women's contributions to community development in the Sacred Valley during JTerm 2020 in Peru. Come to this info session to learn more about what they do in Peru and how you can contribute. If you have any questions, please contact Dana Anderson at danaa@middlebury.edu.

Seeking Chemistry and Math Tutors at Middlebury Union High School

Time: Tuesdays and/or Fridays, 1:47-3:10pm
Location: Middlebury Union High School

The Learning Lab at Middlebury Union High School is seeking a volunteer to tutor a student in chemistry and math. The tutor would meet with the student on Tuesdays and/or Fridays from 1:47-3:10 p.m. Please email Karen Greene if interested at kgreen@acsdvt.org.

Plan and Organize Trips for the CCE

Join in welcoming incoming Febs and preparing peer leaders to welcome Fall arrivals. Work to plan and implement all aspects of the February Community Engagement Trips program and spring MiddView leader training. Expect to work 4-8 hrs/week in this paid position. Learn more or apply here. If you have any questions, please contact Ashley Laux at alaux@middlebury.edu.

Participate in the 2020 Civic Life Youth Film Challenge

First Deadline: Friday, January 31st, 2020

Do you care about: climate change, the Second Amendment, voting rights, immigration, women's rights, freedom of speech, and other issues? Participate in the Civic Life Projects ' Democracy 2020 Youth Film Challenge. This is a national film competition for 15-25 year olds to produce public oriented videos that ultimately create a groundbreaking movement for young Americans to get engages in our Democracy and to vote. Enter and win up to $5000. Submissions are accepted on a rolling basis. The final online application must be sent no later than June 29, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.

The Counseling Service of Addison County, Inc.
www.csac-vt.org

Building Operations Associate

Seeking a team player with excellent interpersonal skills to be a part of our talented facilities team! Looking for someone who enjoys and can respond to maintenance requests, painting, cleaning, carpentry, minor equipment and plumbing repairs.

Must possess good general maintenance skills with 3 years of experience and/or education. Driving record and reliable vehicle a must. Part time 16 hour per week. Equal opportunity employer.

Residential and Community Support Worker

This position involves providing group home based and community based supports for an adult male returning to community living in Middlebury. We're seeking candidates with strong communication skills, and prior experience and/or compassionate curiosity regarding ways to support people coping with life impacting mental health conditions. Availability for some weekend work is a plus. We offer a supportive team approach and a rich learning environment. 20hr./ wk. position with opportunities for full time employment. Work close to home! Equal opportunity employer.

Substitute List

Looking for a rewarding part-time job? Want to explore a career in human services? Or human service professional looking for supplemental income? Join our team in supporting adults with developmental disabilities, and work your own schedule on an as needed basis. Daytime, weekend, and overnight hours available. Substitute staff provide support in community inclusion, on-site job coaching, and a therapeutic group home setting that requires 24/7 coverage. There are four homes requiring different set of skills. Mentoring skills desirable, dependability is a must. Great way to receive training and build experience, and give back to your community. $13.25/h day, $12.25/h overnight.

Use of personal vehicle (with mileage reimbursement) and good driving record required. Work close to home! Equal opportunity employer.

Specialized Residential Support- Birchard Park

Specialized Residential Support for a woman with developmental disabilities in a 24/7 staffed therapeutic home in Middlebury. Work is focused on helping her build skills for independent living, and make choices for a physically and emotionally healthier life. Support is also needed in exploring new interests and creating supportive relationships. At least one year of experience in this field strongly desired. Experience with behavior support plans a plus, while ample training is provided in a great team environment. 30 hours weekly with two overnights. Annual compensation of $29.4K, with $300 sign-on bonus. Comprehensive benefit package. To apply, visit www.csac-vt.org . Equal opportunity employer.

Do you enjoy working with young kids?

Do you want a schedule that fits your life? We have multiple flexible positions working 2 to 30 hours per week. Both daytime and after school hours are available. All you need is a high school diploma or the equivalent, some experience with kids, and a desire to have fun, learn, and help a child succeed. Training and ongoing support are provided. Some positions are benefits-eligible. Equal opportunity employer.

Home-Based (ASD) Behavior Interventionist

Support children 2-21 with autism spectrum disorders in home and community settings to develop social, communication, and adaptive skills. Position is fully supported and training is included. Applicants must have (or be in process of acquiring) bachelor's degree. Use of own transportation required. Work close to home! Equal opportunity employer.

Center for Careers and Internships

See these opportunities and more at go/handshake.

Rural Education Action Program

Location: Palo Alto, Calif.
Term: Winter
Deadline: Oct. 25

The Rural Education Action Program (REAP) is an impact evaluation group working in China focusing on designing, implementing, and evaluating projects that improve educational and health outcomes among poor, rural children. You will spend four weeks (January 6 – 31) in Palo Alto, CA, on the Stanford University campus. Typical assignments include: developing/editing a health education curriculum; working with graduate students from China to co-author a paper on early childhood reading; and analyzing field data to develop tables and reports on student hand washing behavior in primary schools. Applicant will have strong writing skills, background in social science methods, interest in REAP's work, and an ability to work independently.

National Security Agency

Location: Ford Meade, Md.
Term: Summer
Deadline: Oct. 15

The Computer Science Intern Program (CSIP) is an intense and exciting 12-week immersive PAID internship open to students majoring in Computer Science or closely related disciplines. Projects are typically in areas such as big data, information visualization, computer and network security, and machine learning.

The Justice Collaborative Intern

Location: Virtual
Term: Winter
Deadline: Oct. 27

The Justice Collaborative is a team of legal experts, researchers, and media strategists collaborating across a collection of strategically aligned projects to advance criminal justice reform. The Justice Volunteers is a task force dedicated to researching a variety of key criminal justice issues. The work done by The Justice Volunteers is incredibly valuable to TJC's goal of holding elected officials in the criminal justice system accountable, advocating for reform-minded policies across the country, and researching and amplifying important local issues related to criminal justice reform. Join us!

Open Door Clinic

Location: Middlebury, Vt.
Term: Winter
Deadline: Oct. 27

The bilingual patient services internship will provide a student with a unique perspective on healthcare, public health, and access while working at a local non-profit health clinic. The intern will communicate with Spanish-speaking patients/prospective patients over the phone and in-person; interpret during appointments; complete administrative tasks; and assist in updating records, databases, and social media. Required qualifications include Spanish and English fluency. Preferred qualifications include previous experience working with Vermont's migrant farm worker population and/or immigrant and/or low-income populations. Preference will be given to applicants who have attended the Open Door Clinic volunteer training.

Gemic

Location: New York, N.Y.; Toronto & Ontario, Canda; Berlin, Germany
Term: Summer
Deadline: Oct. 27

Our full-time strategy internship program is a two- to four-month paid engagement, during which you'll be based in one of our offices and be expected to hit the ground running as a key member of one of our project teams. We are looking for exceptionally creative, intellectually curious, brave, and humble humans who have a demonstrated interest in business and a love for solving big challenges. Gemic is a human-centric strategy and innovation consultancy with offices in Helsinki and New York. We help some of the largest global companies solve their most difficult strategy challenges.

Metrus Energy

Location: San Francisco, Calif. or Middlebury, Vt.
Term: Winter Term
Deadline: Nov. 1

Metrus Energy is seeking a Winter Term analyst with a demonstrated interest in Metrus' mission of scaling energy efficiency retrofits in the built environment. This person will support the business development team by researching and collecting data on leads and industries. This calls for a detail-oriented individual who is eager to immerse her/himself in Metrus' business positioned at the nexus of project finance and energy efficiency. The analyst could work remotely or use a travel stipend (up to $1,000) provided by Metrus in order to split time between Middlebury (or another remote location) and Metrus' headquarters in San Francisco, CA.

21st Century Theatre Festival

Location: Middlebury, Vt.
Term: Winter
Deadline: Nov. 1

21st Century Theatre Festival is a theatre series dedicated to bringing new works by diverse theatre artists from NYC and Chicago to Middlebury, Vermont, hosted by Associate Professor of Theatre, Claudio Medeiros and Assistant Professor of Theatre, Michole Biancosino. J-term internships will support the festival in positions related to arts management, theatre production, public relationships, marketing, advertising, graphic design, website creation and/or promotional video filming and editing. Interns will work with Producer and Curator, Michole Biancosino, on project-based tasks related to the producing of a theatre festival on campus.

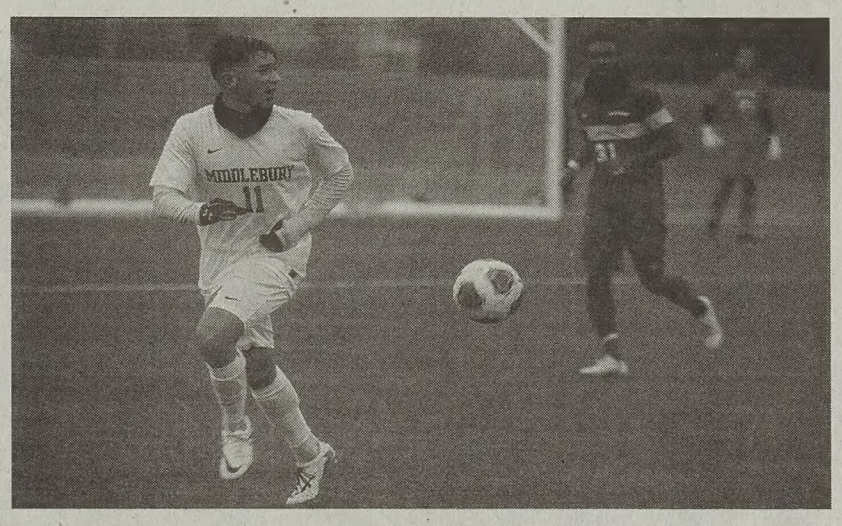
Yale School of Medicine, Department of Neurology and Neuroscience

Location: New Haven, CT
Term: Full Time
Deadline: Nov. 29

The laboratory of Dr. Jaime Grutzendle at Yale department of Neurology and Neuroscience is looking for a highly motivated individual with a recent bachelor degree who would be interested in being involved in exciting neuroscience research investigating the interactions between neurons and glial cells in neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's. The position involves working with graduate students and postdoctoral researchers in the laboratory in projects involving molecular biology, in vivo mouse brain imaging and disease models of Alzheimer's pathology.

This week in sports

MEN'S SOCCER SETTLES FOR TIE AT HOMECOMING



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By ERIK ARVIDSSON
Sports Writer

After a brutal double header in Maine, the Panthers drew with Colby this past Saturday in a Homecoming showdown. The Panthers managed to get on the board early as **Drew Goulart '20** connected on a header in the sixth minute to give Middlebury the early lead. Colby struck back quickly when Asa Berolzheimer evened the score at one in the 19th minute.

The rest of the match was tense as both teams pushed hard to find the back of the net. Following regulation and two overtime periods, the game ended in a 1-1 tie. The Panthers are not fully pleased with the performance, but remain positive about what is to come from the team.

"It was disappointing for us this weekend to drop points," said Goulart. "But, I think that we had periods of the game in which we imposed ourselves on the flow and maintained offensive pressure well."

Next up, the Panthers face Trinity at home on Saturday, Oct. 19.

WOMEN'S SOCCER TOPS CONFERENCE RANKINGS

BENJY RENTON / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By HEATHER BOEHM
Sports Editor

Women's Soccer rose to the occasion this past weekend and delivered a win to enthusiastic alumni on the sidelines, easing past Colby with a dominant 4-0 victory at home on Saturday, Oct. 12.

The Middlebury women remain undefeated in NESCAC play following a successful Homecoming Weekend as they replace Williams atop the conference rankings.

Eliza Van Voorhis '21 got the ball rolling straight from the first whistle. Within the first three minutes, she finished off an assist by **Ellie Bavier '22** and netted a ball past the Colby goalie. About 15 minutes later, **Simone Ameer '21** followed her lead and picked up the first of her two goals with the help of **Gretchen McGrath '21**. Captain **Olivia Miller '20** beat out Colby defenders for one last goal to round out the first half, bringing the tally to three.

In the second half, however, the Mules adjusted, and Ameer was held off until the 56th minute before adding to the total.

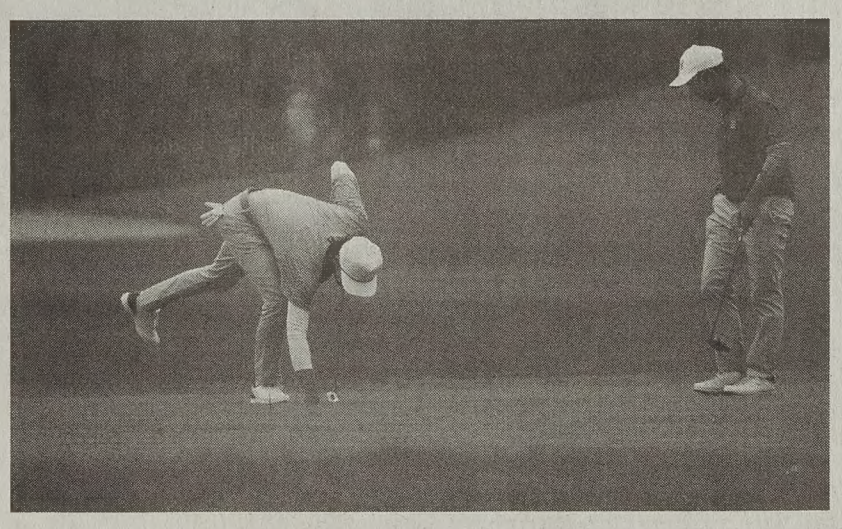
Middlebury's offense was dominant on the field, getting 15 shots on goal compared to Colby's six.

Eva Shaw '20.5 protected the net, deflecting all six Mule attempts.

"I feel like we've been building on each week's performances and aiming to build and improve with each game we play," said Miller. "We've been working on our team wide press to win the ball back and counter attack and it was an awesome collaborative effort to improve together."

The Panthers will look to prolong their winning streak when they face Trinity at Dragone Field on Saturday, Oct 19.

MEN'S GOLF MISSES THE MARK IN SARATOGA



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

By JACK KAGAN
Sports Editor

The Men's Golf team continued a difficult stretch this past weekend, coming off of a 7th place finish at the Saratoga Invitational in Saratoga, N.Y. The Panthers finished just one stroke behind University of Rochester, and well behind familiar foes Trinity, Williams and Babson.

The depleted group, playing without standout **Jordan Bessalel '21**, struggled to keep up with the pack for the third week in a row. With the fall season all but wrapped up, the Panthers are trying to keep their sights focused on righting the ship in the spring. "Those teams [in Saratoga] are just far better than we are. We are trying to prepare the best we can but right now they have a bit of a leg up on us," said **Jeffrey Giguere '20**.

The team now begins the long wait until they return to the course for the spring season.

VOLLEYBALL SHOWS RESILIENCE IN SPLIT WEEKEND

By HEATHER BOEHM
Sports Editor

The Women's Volleyball team split their conference games this weekend, falling to No. 24 Wesleyan 3-0 on Friday, Oct. 11 and rebounding with a 3-0 win over Connecticut College on Saturday, Oct. 12 at Pepin Gymnasium.

Wesleyan opened the weekend's play with a fiery start, dictating the first two sets with a strong performance by Mia Horgan. The Panthers found their stride in the third set, but not before Wesleyan capitalized on their momentum with a four-point victory.

Panther **Maggie Wise '22** led the offense, tallying five kills throughout the contest, while **Gigi Alper '20** showed up on defense with 11 digs.

The Panthers brushed off Friday's minor setback and were ready to face another NESCAC foe at home on Saturday.

The women jumped into gear as the first ball was tossed into play, at one point driving the first set with an 11-point spread. After getting a handle on the Camel offense, the Panthers proceeded to take the following sets 25-13 and 25-11.

Wise contributed 10 kills to the Middlebury effort, while **Chellsa Ferdinand '20** found her teammates for 16 assists.

The Panthers will make their way to MIT on Friday, Oct. 18 for the New England Challenge, where they will also take on Springfield and Babson.

ERICA BISALLION/ MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

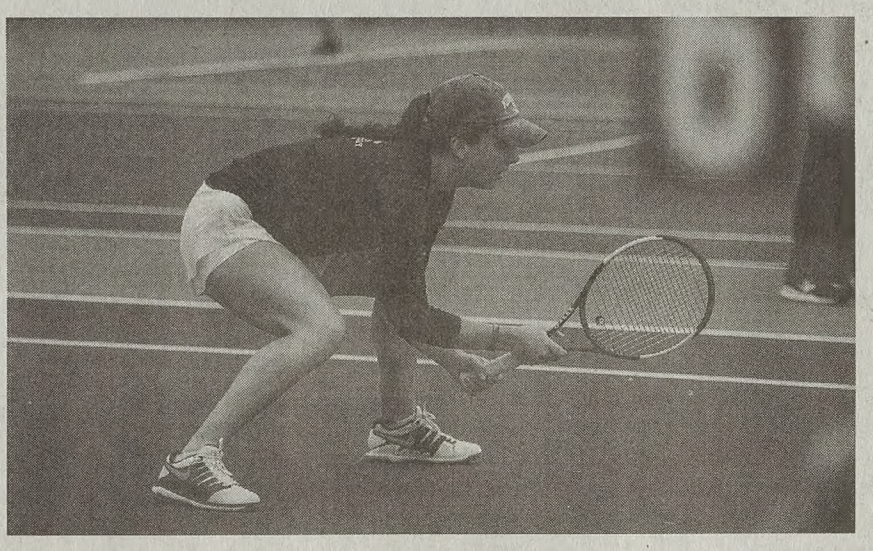
WOMEN'S TENNIS FACES TOUGH COMPETITION AT NEWITT

By MIGUEL ESPINOSA
Senior Sports Editor

Women's Tennis competed in the prestigious New England Women's Intercollegiate Tennis Tournament (NEWITT) from Friday, Oct. 11 to Sunday, Oct. 13, which was hosted by Mount Holyoke and Smith College.

The tournament involved "A," "B", and "C" brackets. To advance within a bracket, a team would need to win two of three matches against another team. The three matches included two singles matches, best of three, and one doubles match, comprised of just one pro-set.

Ruhi Kamdar '22 and **Caitlin Neal '23** earned the title for the "C" bracket, after having defeated duos from Western New England, Nichols, and Trinity. In the "B" bracket, **Catherine Blayze '20**, **Amanda Frank '23**, and **Brinlea La Barge '23** reached the semifinals, but ultimately fell to Wesleyan, 2-1. For the "A" bracket, **Maddi Stow '20, Katherine Hughes '20**, and **Skylar Schossberger '20** swept Trinity in the first round, 3-0, but lost to a duo from Amherst in the second round, 2-1.



BENJY RENTON / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

FIELD HOCKEY RIDES THE WAVE

By MIGUEL ESPINOSA
Senior Sports Writer

Top-ranked Field Hockey defeated Colby College, 4-1, at home on Saturday, Oct. 12. Middlebury's record now stands at 11-0 overall and 7-0 against conference opponents. Colby took the field ranked 17th in the nation and holds a record of 6-3 after the loss.

Erin Nicholas '21 notched the first goal at the 1:21 mark of the second quarter, burying a shot into the left post. Colby tied the game at 4:48, but the Panthers immediately responded with another goal by Nicholas 36 seconds later. Middlebury would go on to score two more unanswered goals in the third and fourth quarters.

For the most part, offensive momentum appeared to stay with the home team. The Panthers attempted fifteen shots throughout the entire game compared to Mules' five. Hopefully such momentum continues when they face off against Trinity College at home on Saturday, Oct. 19.

BENJY RENTON / THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Football survives late comeback by Colby, remains atop NESCAC

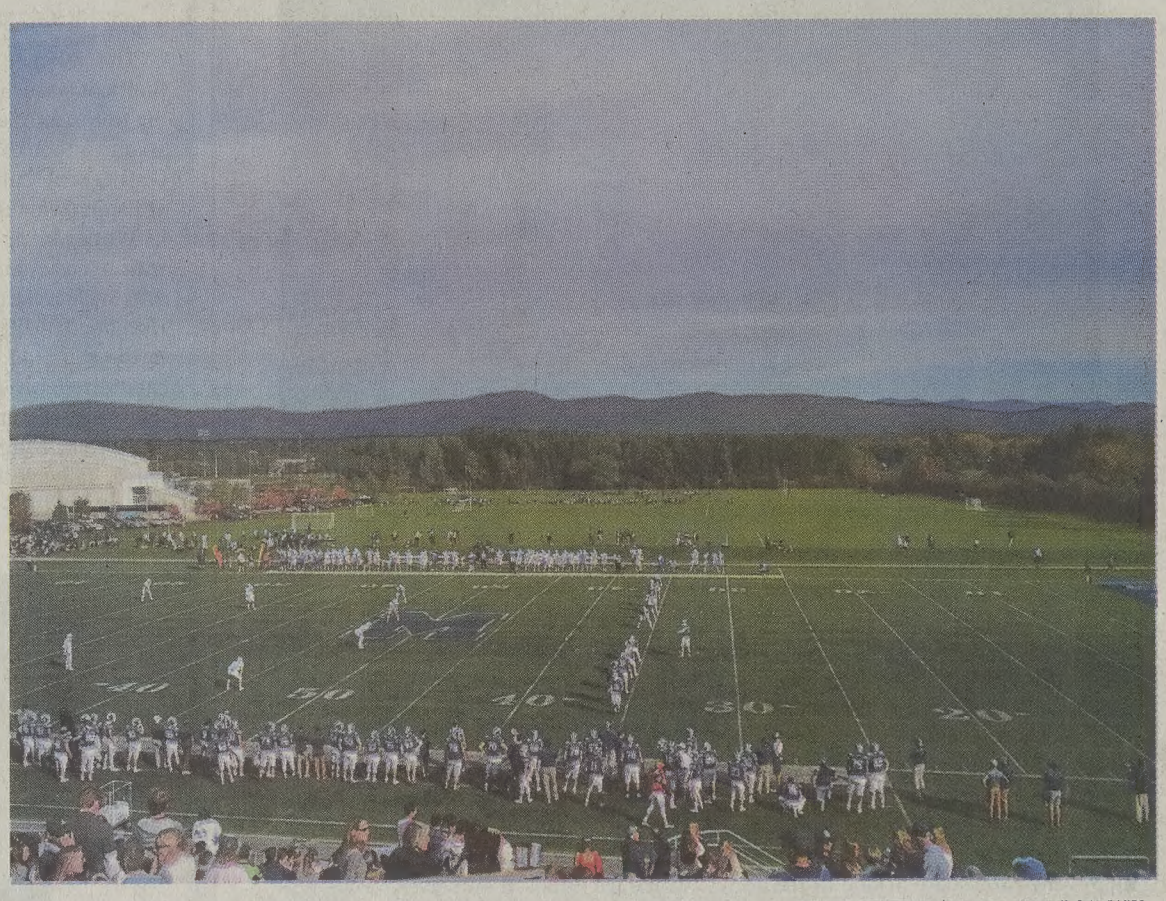
By LAUREN BOYD
Sports Writer

Let's face it — while Midd football has played solidly in recent years, powerhouses like Trinity, Tufts, and Amherst have stopped the team from claiming the NESCAC title. But considering how well this season has unfolded so far, it wouldn't be crazy to think 2019 will be different.

The Panthers brought this season's record to 5-0, with a 27-26 win over the Colby Mules on Saturday, Oct. 12. Now halfway through the season, the Panthers and the Wesleyan Cardinals are the only undefeated teams in the NESCAC. Both will be put to the test next week, as they face off at Middlebury to see who will get to the 6-0 mark.

This past weekend, however, was a wake-up call for the Panthers, as they barely scraped by against the 0-4 Colby Mules.

The atmosphere at the game was electric. Alumni were back, the crowd was packed and the game was exciting at every turn for those looking to watch the Panthers go 5-0.



BENJY RENTON / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Clear skies, a cool temperature, and Vermont foliage greeted the game's attendants.

BENJY RENTON / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The Panthers' defense has recorded nine interceptions and two fumbles in five games.

The Mules pulled away during the first half, scoring 13 points compared to the Panthers' six. The Panthers then switched the momentum post-halftime by scoring three unanswered touchdowns. Despite maintaining a cushy 27-13 lead, fumbles by Middlebury on two consecutive drives gave way to two Colby touchdowns. The Mules missed an extra point attempt on their last touchdown and the score was 27-26 Middlebury. A last-second missed field goal by the Mules brought Panther fans to their feet and sealed a Middlebury victory. Although this past weekend was an exciting turn for the Panther crowd, the team must look forward to maintaining their undefeated streak against a tough bout with Wesleyan.

Going into the game against Wesleyan, the Panthers know that this week will be an indicator of the rest of their season. After two close games (double OT win against Amherst and last-second, one-point win against Colby), the Panthers will have to put their best foot forward against a strong Wesleyan team.

Within the past five weeks, the Panthers have accumulated an average of 27.6 points per game, fewer than two points lower than the Cardinals. Although these numbers are not indicative of the team's successes thus far, it is telling of the upcoming battle on Saturday.

Will Jernigan '21 has been a crucial piece to the Panther offense this season thanks to his solid passing ability. Jernigan has averaged 227.4 passing yards per game and has accumulated over 1137 passing yards in the past 5 games. The Panthers are third in the conference in this metric. Wesleyan, on the other hand, have not amassed this type of yardage yet this season. The Cardinals average 196.2 passing yards per game, accumulating 981 yards in total. Throughout the season, Jernigan has played an integral role leading the Middlebury offense.

A combination of Middlebury players have accumulated receiving yards. Five different Panthers have notched over 100 receiving yards on the season so far: **Maxwell Rye '20** (345 yds), **Greg Livingston '22** (175 yds), **Frank Cosolito '20** (166 yds), **Maxim Bochman '20** (146 yds), and **Aidan Power '20** (127 yds).

First-year **Alex Maldjian '23** has dominated the Panther rushing game, with Jernigan not far behind. Maldjian has rushed for 448 yards thus far this season, scoring 3 touchdowns on the ground. Jernigan also ran for 396 yards, scoring 5 touchdowns for the Panthers.

Defensively, the Middlebury squad's depth has driven its 5-0 run. **Jack Pistorius '21**, **Pete Huggins '21** and **Wyllis McKissick '20** have recorded over 30 tackles each (Pistorius 45, Huggins 42, McKissick 30). Four Panthers, **Zander Bailey '21**, **Kevin Hartley '20**, **Michael Carr '20**, and **Finn Muldoon '23**, have each accumulated two interceptions, respectively. **Alex Norton '20** leads the team in sacks, recording four sacks for a loss of 40 yards total.

Carter Massengill '20 and Rye have controlled the kicking and punting games for the Panthers. Massengill logged 28 points on the kicking game this season for the Panthers, with his longest bootcoming from 33 yards out. Rye has amassed 948 punting yards within the past five games.

The difference between this year's successes and last year's season is heavily influenced by the energy of the team.

> ***"This year, I've felt an undeniable sense of energy — it's not over the top, but this palpable recognition of our confidence to execute."***
>
> ***Carter Massengill '20***

"I have the honor of spotting the ball throughout practice, which gives me a close up feel of how we are doing as a team. This year, I've felt an undeniable sense of energy — it's not over the top, but this palpable recognition of our confidence to execute," Massengill said. "I remember making a remark to some other seniors during the preseason that the energy feels different this year. We've carried it throughout the season in all three phases of the game."

This season has been a testament to the Panthers' strengths on all phases of the game. Jernigan runs the offense using his versatility in the rushing and passing games, with a strong offensive line leading the way. A combination of receivers, alongside Maldjian's running game, have developed the Panther offensive game. Defensive depth has played a key role in the Panthers' undefeated season as well, behind a stout defensive line and prepared backfield players.

Looking forward, the Panthers will face a tough, undefeated Wesleyan team. Behind their successes so far, the team looks to come out of the game on top of the NESCAC, to best position themselves for the end-of-season rankings, and win the championship.

BENJY RENTON / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Will Jernigan '21 has established himself as a dual-threat quarterback, accumulating 1137 passing and 327 rushing yards this year.

BENJY RENTON / MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The game's back-and-forth scoring and close ending left the student section on its feet.

Upcoming Games

OCT. 19	Wesleyan 1:00 p.m.
OCT. 26	at Bowdoin 1:00 p.m.
NOV. 2	Hamilton 12:30 p.m.
NOV. 9	at Tufts 12:30 p.m.